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ANNIVERSARY ORATION

DELIVERED BEFORE

THE MEDICAL SOCIETY

OF THE

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,

SEPTEMBER 26, 1866,

BY

J. M. TONER, M. D.

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Committee appointed by the Medical Society of the D. C., to publish Dr. Toner's Anniversary Oration.

WM. P. JOHNSTON, M. D.

THOMAS ANTISELL, M. D.

J. W. H. LOVEJOY, M. D.

ORATION.

MR. PRESIDENT, MEMBERS AND FELLOWS

Of the Medical Society of the District of Columbia :

The occasion which brings us together this day is peculiar and agreeable.

By your partiality the honor of greeting the members of the *Medical Society of the District of Columbia*, on this, their forty-ninth anniversary,* has been assigned to me. For your sake I regret that the compliment had not fallen on some member whose ability and eloquence would have made the occasion historic.

This is the first time in the history of the *Medical Society of the District of Columbia* that a meeting to commemorate its formation and to establish a precedent for future celebrations, has been held. It is obviously proper that our Society—whose origin dates back nearly half a century—should, in a special and appropriate manner, recognize each yearly return of that event.

* We assume our Society to have had an existence from the 26th September, 1817, when a resolution to form it by the *Medical Faculty of the District* was passed at a meeting held for that purpose. Thus, the 26th September, 1866, has become our forty-ninth anniversary.

The Government of the *United States* dates its existence from the passage of the resolution of the Continental Congress to be a free and independent nation. on the 4th of July, 1776. This resolution was not ordered to be engrossed until the 19th, and was not signed until the 2d of August, 1776. Articles for Colonial Confederation were only definitely agreed upon in Congress on the 12th of July, 1776. Our present constitutional form of government went into operation on the 30th of April, 1789, by the inauguration of President *Washington*.

If a precedent be required in justification of the date selected for our anniversary, we deem the one given as pertinent and conclusive,

It is proper and profitable for us, occasionally, to take note of the condition and efficiency of this Society, and, in our associate capacity, review the achievements of science, at home and abroad; and, as far as possible, make the discoveries in every science and of every country a fund of knowledge, from which to draw aid in the discharge of the duties of our high and noble calling.

As medical men we have just reason to be proud of the long list of able and distinguished physicians who have practiced their profession in this section, and particularly of those whose names are found upon the rolls of this Society.

There is, however, a brotherhood and catholic spirit pervading the office of the true and honorable physician, which is confined to no age, and is uninfluenced by climate, nationality, or political boundaries. We shall, therefore, recognize ourselves as in fellowship with all the regular physicians who have practiced the healing art in this section, from its earliest settlement.

On this occasion I shall endeavor to confine my remarks, without the embellishment of fancy, to matters of fact and historic interest to the medical profession, that have occurred within the territory known as the "*Ten Miles Square*." The political history of this section—and particularly of the *District of Columbia*—is covered up in no cloudy fable, such as obscures the origin of some of the nations and capitals of the Old World.

It is but little over two centuries and a half since these shores were first visited by white men. In 1608 Captain *John Smith*, with a chosen crew, ascended the *Potomac River* to the Falls, a few miles above this city. Dr. *Walter Russell*, one of the officers attached to the expedition, was called upon on that occasion to render important professional service to Captain *Smith*, in consequence of an accidental wound received from the fin of a fish, which occurred on their return, and possibly within, or near, the District. Dr. *Russell* is therefore presumed to be the first physician who practiced the healing art in this vicinity, and perhaps within the territory of the *United States*.

A century later, and the native Indian was still fishing from his bark

canoe, on the broad waters of the *Potomac*, and along these shores, where now stand three cities, and where ride at anchor, or are chained at busy wharves, large merchant and naval fleets, bearing the flags of every nation. Here, with bow and arrow, a numerous people, now almost exterminated, secured abundant game in the depths of a primitive forest, where now is spread out, in magnificent proportion and design, the Federal City.

Here has been erected, on a fitting site, selected for its high object by him whose name the city bears, the most elegant and costly Capitol in the world, whose foundation stone was laid with Masonic benediction by *Washington* himself.

From the dome of this proud structure, canopying our National Legislative Halls, from which in a few years will emanate laws that shall govern the whole American continent, may be seen the place of sepulchre at *Mount Vernon* of the founder, not only of this city, but of the American Empire.

The earliest survey or location of land within the territory now known as the *District of Columbia*, was made in 1663, for *Francis Pope*, and included the ground where the Capitol now stands. The survey covering the section of the *District of Columbia* south of the *Potomac* was made for Captain *Robert Howson*, in October, 1667. It was, no doubt, some time after the period named, before any considerable settlement was made within the limits of the "Ten Miles Square." The town of *Alexandria* was incorporated in 1748, and *Georgetown* in 1751, although considerable settlements had been made at these points much earlier, and, as you all know, *Washington* was laid out in 1791, and included within its bounds the then existing villages of *Carrollville* and *Hamburg*.

It is probable that the *William Ramsay* named in the Act chartering the town of *Alexandria*, was a physician, as a doctor of that name resided there a few years later.

In 1766, just one century ago, there were two physicians practicing in *Alexandria*, namely: *James Laurie* and *William Ramsay*. At a later period, and previous to 1800, Drs. *James Craik*, *Elisha Cullen*

Dick, James Gillies, Gustavus Brown, and William Washington practiced there.

It is probable that *Dr. Walter Smith* was the first physician who settled in *Georgetown*, and that *Dr. John Weems* was the second; *Dr. Charles A. Beatty* settled in *Georgetown* in 1782. *Dr. Charles Worthington*, a native of *Anne Arundel county, Maryland*, and the first President of this Society, settled in *Georgetown* in 1783. *Edward Gantt* began to practice there prior to 1800. He was also a minister of the Episcopal Church.

The earliest physicians in *Washington* were *Drs. Samuel Brown* and *John Crocker*—the latter had been a surgeon in the Revolutionary War. *Frederick May* came to this city from *Boston* in 1795. *Dr. Cornelius Cunningham*, an Englishman by birth, was also among the earliest, having settled here prior to 1796. He was a man of enterprise, and engaged in various pursuits in addition to his profession; and as early as 1796 had a brewery in operation near the Navy Yard.

The population of *Alexandria* in 1790 was 2,749; *Georgetown*, about 1,200, and *Washington* was inhabited only by a few farmers, their servants, and perhaps some tradesmen and fishermen; so that the demand from this sparse population for physicians could not have been great. *Hamburg* and *Carrollville* had but a few houses.

A *Mr. Wells* is still living among us, who, while a youth, assisted in 1791 and 1792, in carrying the chain used in surveying and laying out this city; at that time more than one-half of the territory now included within its limits, was covered with woods and swamps.

Our city, being neither a commercial nor a manufacturing one, has not increased in population like those wonderful marts in the *Mississippi* valley, that number their 100,000 in a few years. Yet we have gone on regularly increasing in population and wealth, and of late years more rapidly than formerly; until now we number over one hundred thousand souls; and from two or three physicians in 1800, to one hundred and twenty-seven in 1860, and about one hundred and fifty to-day.

The first meeting that I can ascertain to have been held by the physicians of the District, in an associate capacity, was in 1813. This

was called, by public advertisement in the *National Intelligencer*, to take suitable notice of the death of Dr. *Benjamin Rush*, and to appropriately commemorate his life and professional services. The notice is in the following words:—

“A MEETING of the Medical Faculty of the city of Washington and Georgetown is requested at the Council Chamber of Washington, on to-morrow, (Thursday, April 28, 1813,) at 4 o'clock, P. M.”

A number of professional men met at the time and place indicated. Dr. *Charles Worthington* was elected President, and Dr. *Thomas Sim* Secretary. Resolutions were passed expressive of the sense of the profession in the District, and Dr. *Sim* received the unanimous request of the meeting to prepare a eulogy upon the life and character of Dr. *Rush*. At the same time a committee, consisting of Drs. *Blake*, *Huntt*, and *Clarke*, of *Washington*, and Drs. *Bohrer* and *Baker*, of *Georgetown*, were selected to make all needful preparations, and to announce the time and place for the delivery of the eulogy.

The discourse was prepared, and delivered on the 26th of June, 1813, in the Rev. Mr. *Laurie's* church, on F street, before a large and appreciative audience. The address was noticed favorably in the papers, and was published by request in pamphlet form; but no copy has been preserved, so far as I can discover.

A law passed by the Assembly of *Maryland* in 1798, establishing the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty, and for regulating the admission of individuals to practice medicine within that State, was not superseded by any Act of Congress, and was therefore, I have no doubt-applicable to the *District of Columbia* prior to the chartering of this Society. The law alluded to invested the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of the State of *Maryland* with authority to elect a board of twelve *Examiners*, whose duty it should be to determine, by a thorough examination, the qualification and fitness of all applicants for license to practice within the State. This law, if applicable to the *District of Columbia*, was not enforced here, although quite a number of the early practitioners of the city, not graduates in medicine, were licentiates of that Society.

The frequent injury and injustice which had been perpetrated upon citizens of the District, by charlatans and pretended doctors, at length, in 1817, induced the regularly qualified physicians of *Washington* and *Georgetown* to form themselves into a Society for the purpose of informing the public who were qualified to practice the healing art, and worthy of the confidence of the public, and, in the language of the charter, for "the promoting and disseminating medical and surgical knowledge."

Although, as stated, there had been meetings of the medical faculty of *Washington* and *Georgetown* prior to 1817, such meetings took place upon special calls and for specific purposes, of which no record was kept.

The propriety of forming a *Medical Society* in *Washington* had long been canvassed, and the profession was found to be unanimous in its approval of the project.

The call for a meeting of physicians for the formation of the *Medical Society of the District of Columbia*, is to be found in the *National Intelligencer* of the 24th September, 1817, and is in the following language:

"The Physicians of Washington and Georgetown are requested to meet at *Tennison's Hotel*, on Friday, the 26th instant, (September, 1817) at 11 o'clock, for the purpose of taking into consideration the organization of a Medical Society."

The meeting was held at the time and place proposed, and was attended by sixteen physicians, nearly all that were then engaged in practice in the places named in the call. Their names are as follows: Drs. *Charles Worthington*, *James H. Blake*, *Thomas Sim*, *Alexander McWilliams*, *Robert French*, *Samuel Hersley*, *James T. Johnson*, *J. P. C. McMahon*, *Peregrine Warfield*, *Thomas Henderson*, *George Clark*, *Benjamin S. Bohrer*, *John Harrison*, *William Jones*,* *Nicholas W. Worthington*, *Henry Hunt*.

* Dr. *William Jones* is believed to be the only physician now living who petitioned Congress for the Charter of this Society. [The Doctor died June 23, 1867, aged 77.]

Dr. *Charles Worthington* was selected as Chairman, and Dr. *Henry Hunt* Secretary. The object of the meeting having been explained, the following resolution was proposed and passed unanimously:

“*Resolved*, That the physicians attending this meeting deem it important and expedient to organize at once a society in the District for the promotion of medical science.

A committee of seven was then selected by ballot to draft a constitution and by-laws for the government of the society, to be known by the name of the “*Medical Society of the District of Columbia*,” and to report the same for adoption at a meeting to be held at the same place on the first Monday in November, 1817. This committee consisted of Drs. *Blake, Sim, Henderson, Clark, Worthington, Sr., Warfield* and *Hunt*. At the meeting held according to adjournment, November 3d, the committee reported the draft of a constitution and by-laws.

After the reading of the report it was determined to amend and adopt the constitution and by-laws section by section. It thus became necessary from want of time to complete the work to adjourn the society until the 10th of the same month, at which time all the sections and amendments to the constitution and by-laws were adopted seriatim and ordered to be copied in a book, and to be signed by the members.

As the copying required time, it was agreed that the next meeting of the Society should be held on the 5th of January, 1818, and that a call should be extended by public advertisement to all the physicians of the District (the previous call having been only to *Washington* and *Georgetown*) to attend and take part in adopting the constitution and by-laws as a whole, and in the election of officers for the ensuing year.

The officers elected at the meeting were—

Dr. CHARLES WORTHINGTON,	<i>President.</i>
Dr. ARNOLD ELZEY,	} <i>Vice Presidents.</i>
Dr. JAMES H. BLAKE,	
Dr. HENRY HUNT,	<i>Corresponding Secretary.</i>
Dr. THOMAS HENDERSON,	<i>Recording Secretary.</i>
Dr. RICHARD WEIGHTMAN,	<i>Librarian.</i>
Dr. WILLIAM JONES,	<i>Treasurer.</i>

The regulations of the Society at this time called for four regular

annual meetings. Able papers were read, and valuable discussions held at each meeting; and not unfrequently adjourned meetings were held for medical discussions. Some of the papers read before the Society at that period were printed, and have therefore been preserved.*

The advantages which the organization afforded for professional improvement more than equalled the expectation of its members, but they were still sensible that it did not give that protection to the public against imposition from incompetent and dishonest pretenders to the healing art which was needed.

The better to secure to the community the services of well educated and competent physicians, the following-named twenty-one members, whose memories are ever worthy of our gratitude, petitioned Congress in 1818 for a charter for the society:

Charles Worthington, M. B.....	Died Sept.	10, 1836..	Aged 76
James H. Blake.....	July	29, 1819..	52
John T. Shaaff, M. D.....	April	5, 1819..	..
Thomas Sim, M. B.....	Sept.	15, 1832..	63
Frederick May, M. D.....	Jan.	23, 1847..	74
Joel T. Gustine.....	.....	.....	..
Elisba Harrison.....	Aug.	24, 1819..	57
Peregrine Warfield, L. M. C. F.....	Aug.	4, 1856..	..
Alexander McWilliams, M. D.....	March	3, 1850..	76
George Clark, M. D.....	Oct.	5, 1822..	..
Henry Hunt, L. M. C. F.....	Sept.	21, 1838..	56
Thomas Henderson, M. D.....	Aug.	11, 1854..	..
John Harrison.....	March	4, 1825..	..
Benjamin S. Bohrer, M. D.....	Aug.	19, 1862..	..
Samuel Horsley.....	.....	.....	..
Nicholas W. Worthington, M. D.....	July	30, 1849..	..
William Jones, L. M. C. F.....	June	25, 1867..	77
James T. Johnson, M. D.....	.....	.....	..
Richard Weightman, M. D.....	Oct.	30, 1841..	49
George W. May, M. D.....	.....	.....	..
Robert French, M. D.....	Aug.	13, 1835..	48

The prayer of the petitioners was granted, and the law creating them and their successors a body corporate patterned very much

* See *New York Medical Repository*.

after the act or charter of the "*Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland*" was passed. The act received the signature of *James Monroe*, President of the United States, and became a law of the District on the 16th February, 1819. A copy of the Charter is published in all the pamphlet editions of the constitution and by laws of the Society, and is so familiar to all of us as to require no comment.

For the privileges granted to the *Medical Society of the District of Columbia* there were corresponding obligations imposed, charging it with the important trust of licensing to practice within the District only such as a competent and regularly elected board of examiners of the society, provided for in the law, might, upon a full examination, judge qualified, or as might satisfy them of their education and knowledge of the science of medicine and surgery by the production of a diploma from some respectable college.

It was hoped by the society, and designed by the enactors of the law, that its provisions should be so ample as to protect the community against the hazards of the ignorant and pretending charlatan, and secure the services of learned and skillful physicians within the District.

The following notice in relation to the charter of the Medical Society appeared in the *National Intelligencer* of the 3d March, 1819 :

"By an act of Congress the *Medical Society of the District of Columbia* has been incorporated, and by a provision in the act the term of service of the officers expires on the 8th of March. A meeting of the Society is called on Monday next, (March 8,) at 11 o'clock, at *Strother's Hotel*, where much business, of great importance to the Society, will be laid before the members, who are notified to attend precisely at the hour appointed.

"The Library Committee are requested to meet at the same place on the same day, at 10 o'clock, and prepare to make a report.

"THOMAS HENDERSON,

"*Recording Secretary.*"

At the meeting held pursuant to the above call, the Society elected the following officers for the ensuing year :

CHARLES WORTHINGTON,	<i>President.</i>
WILLIAM ARNOLD,	} <i>Vice Presidents.</i>
JAMES H. BLAKE,	

HENRY HUNTT, *Corresponding Secretary.*
 THOMAS HENDERSON, *Recording Secretary.*
 N. W. WORTHINGTON, *Librarian.*
 WILLIAM JONES, *Treasurer.*
 JOHN T. SHAAFF,
 CHARLES WORTHINGTON,
 THOMAS SIM,
 FREDERICK MAY,
 THOMAS SEMMES,
 G. W. MAY,
 G. A. BROWN,
 N. W. WORTHINGTON,

} *Board of Examiners.*
 }
 } *Censors.*

It will be perceived that some of the officers elected at this time were practitioners in Alexandria, so that it is evident that the profession of the whole District was not only included in the operation of the law, but took part in the affairs of the Society.

The following form for the certificate of license, in Latin, to be printed on parchment, and given to such practitioners of the *District of Columbia* as should from time to time be found qualified to practice the healing art by the Board of Examiners of the Society, was agreed upon and ordered to be engraved on a plate 13 by 15 inches:

*Præses et Quæsitores Societatis Medicorum in Columbiae Territorio omnibus et singulis hæc literas lecturis, salutem:**

Notum sit, examinatione habita — — — — virum doctumque Medicinæ et chirurgiæ satis peritum nos comprobare.

Itaque auctoritate nobis collata ex Societatis decreto, eidem — — — — jusque potestatem artemque salutarem et Chirurgiam exercendi damus et concedimus.

Cujus sigillum communi huic membranæ affixum nominaque nostra subscripta testimonio sint.

Datum — — — — Anno Domini Millesimo Octingentesimo — — — — et Republicæ Septuagesimo — — — — et hujusce Societatis institutæ — — — —.

_____, *Præses.*
 _____,
 _____,
 _____,
 _____,
 _____, } *Quæsitores.*

*[Translation of certificate.]

The President and Examiners of the Medical Society of the District of Columbia to all and singular who may read these presents, greeting:

Be it Known, That, upon examination held, we approve — — — — as a man sufficiently skilled in the science of Medicine and Surgery:

Therefore, Under the authority conferred on us by the decree of the Society,

This certificate or diploma is handsomely engraved, with blanks left for the insertion of the name of the licentiate, date and place of issue, and for the name of the President and Board of Examiners, with a space for the impression of the seal of the Society.

An official seal* for the use of the Society, to be impressed on all its official papers, was also designed and adopted and ordered to be engraved.

This seal and the plate for the license certificate is still in use by the Society.

The regulation for four stated yearly meetings was preserved in the charter—the members attending with much punctuality, and manifesting great interest in the success of the Society. The papers read before it were well prepared, and the discussions which followed were able and practical. A hall was rented† in 1819 for the use of the Society,

we grant and confirm to the said ——— the right and authority of practising Therapeutics and Surgery.

In evidence whereof, the Seal of the Society is affixed to this parchment, and our names hereto subscribed.

Given at ——— in the year of our Lord, 18—, and of the Republic the —, and of the establishment of the Society the —.

_____	}	President.

_____	}	Examiners.

* The Seal of the Society is handsomely engraved on a circular die, which is two inches and a half in diameter. In the centre is seen a figure of Hygeia, the Goddess of Health, seated on an elevated altar in her temple, beneath its arched and paneled dome, supported on numerous massive fluted columns. She holds in her hand a cup extended toward a serpent, which is an emblem of Wisdom. The serpent is coiled around a pedestal, and has its head raised as in the attitude of depositing curative medicine in the cup. The following motto, in Latin, appears over the altar beneath the dome: "*Concord, Labor, and Frugality.*" The following, in larger letters, also in Latin, as a heading, is engraved around the margin: "*Temple of Hygeia,*" and around the sides and beneath, "*Seal of the Medical Society of the District of Columbia.*"

† The room rented at that time for the use of the Medical Society was *McPhail's* school-room, subsequently known as *Mr. Haskell's*, situated just north of *St. John's Church*, on *Sixteenth Street*. The Society only rented the

and a library collected by donation and purchase. I regret, however, to say that but one of these works ("*Quincy's Lexicon*") is now in the library of the Society. This one has inscribed upon the inside of the cover, "Presented by *Thomas Henderson* to the *Medical Society*, July 1, 1818."

As the novelty of the meetings wore off with the younger members, and the older became infirm or were removed by death, interest in the proceedings and discussions gradually abated, and in a few years barely a quorum could be got together. It seems the younger members and strangers settling to practice here did not speedily fraternize or endeavor to advance their own in the general interest of the profession, as the originators of the Society had done.

The opening of the *Medical Department of Columbia College* also seems to have increased the indifference of the physicians to the interests of the *Medical Society* by supplying a new source of professional entertainment. Adverse theories sprang up among the profession as to the qualifications essential under the charter to legalize the practice of medicine in the District. It was held by some that a diploma from a College was all that was required or contemplated by the enactors of the charter. But this Society held then, and still maintains,

room which they called the "*Medical Hall*" for one year, from October 1, 1819. After that they went wandering about, and met wherever they could find accommodations. The following are the names of some of the places: *Strother's* and *Tennison's Hotels*; the offices of Doctors *Huntt* and *Causin*; and occasionally at the rooms of the *City Councils* when they occupied the building on *Eleventh Street*, now owned by the *Washington Library Company*; and subsequently, when the *Councils* occupied the rooms of General *R. Weightman*, on *Sixth Street*, now a part of the *National Hotel*, they met there. The advertisements show that the Society also met in the room over the *United States Engine House*, which stood on the ground where the *General Post Office* now stands; and at times they met in a room in the *Patent Office* adjoining. Occasionally, from 1827, the Society met in the *Columbian Medical College*. After the completion of the *City Hall* the meetings were generally held there, until the opening of *Washington City Infirmary*, where meetings were held until that building was destroyed, by fire, in 1861, after which they met at *Georgetown Medical College* until 1865, after which the room which we now occupy, over *Z. D. Gilman's*, was rented.

that the law contemplated the elevation of the standard of professional qualification as well as the exclusion of ignorant practitioners from the *District of Columbia*, and the better to accomplish this, Congress entrusted the licensing, which legalizes the practice of medicine in the District exclusively to the Board of Examiners of this Society.* The law itself directs that individuals engaging in practice here must obtain a license from the Examiners of the Medical Society, and to obtain this, must satisfy the Board of Examiners of their proficiency, either by the presentation of a diploma from some respectable College or by undergoing an examination, and if approved a license shall be granted, for which the applicant shall pay a fee not exceeding ten dollars.

Congress very properly left the standard of medical knowledge essential to the efficient discharge of the duties of a practising physi-

* A few colleges, it is believed, in our country, have, by a special provision in the act of their incorporation, the privilege to, and others hold that a charter empowering them to teach the sciences and to grant and confer degrees, carries with it a right equivalent to a license to practice within the State from which the charter of the College has emanated. In a word, that a M. D.'s diploma from a regularly chartered college is in itself a license to practice. This Society holds the view that the two acts are in their essential nature, different; and of right ought to be kept separate and distinct. Colleges should confer honors, but not privileges or authority. Licensing is purely a legislative act—a sort of police regulation—liable to be changed or modified at any time by the authorities with whom it originated. The following is an exact copy of the first advertisement of the Board of Examiners of this Society, taken from the *National Intelligencer* of March 17, 1819, which makes it very evident that they believed themselves clothed with and acting under the power and authority of a law of Congress made and provided for licensing of all persons presuming to practice medicine in the District of Columbia, and that any person attempting to practice within the said District without having first obtained such license would be plainly violating both the spirit and letter of the law. Nor can any one recover fees by process of law unless a licentiate of the Society.

The Medical Board of Examiners, elected under the law of Congress incorporating the Medical Society of the District of Columbia, will hold their first stated meeting in the City of Washington on the first Monday in April. Applicants for licenses to practice medicine or surgery in the District of Columbia will then attend; and in the meantime may obtain a special license from any member of the Board.

J. T. SHAAF,	} Examiners.
CHARLES WORTHINGTON,	
THOMAS SIM,	
FREDERICK MAY,	
THOMAS SEMMES,	

cian in this community to be determined by the medical faculty of the District. No preference is given in the charter to any mode of gaining the required knowledge of the science of medicine; but proficiency is demanded and made essential to the privilege. A government, solicitous for the welfare of its citizens, cannot be indifferent to the character and qualifications of those entrusted with their health. To obtain the highest proficiency in the healing art, colleges and hospitals are chartered, where all the different branches of medical science can be efficiently taught and studied; but it is eminently proper for the Government and medical societies to preserve a distinction between the privilege of teaching the science of medicine and the right to practice the same. The good of the public and the dignity of the profession alike require that they be kept separate and distinct.

The Army and Navy, each for themselves, determine the standard of medical knowledge requisite, and examine into the efficiency of those seeking to enter either of these branches of the public service. The Government, the public, and the profession see and approve the justice of such a regulation. There is no good reason why as high a standard of medical knowledge should not be maintained for the benefit of the public as for the Army and Navy. Indeed, our charter particularly charges us with this important duty, as regards the *District of Columbia*. The Society, in its discretion, has for some years waived the formality of issuing the certificate or license, but has always insisted that the professional qualifications of applicants shall be passed upon by the Examiners before they can be recognized and register as duly qualified to practice or nominated for membership in the Society. I hope that we may soon return to the former usage of the Society, and issue a certificate to all applicants whom our Examiners may find qualified to practice, in accordance with the intent of the charter.

The granting of a license by the Board of Examiners in the early history of the Society was never construed as equivalent to membership. Members have always been elected by ballot, and only from among those who had received the certificate of the Board of Examiners on the nomination of that Board or of some member of the Society. The two acts were held to be distinct, and should be so maintained.

It is perhaps to be regretted that the office of Censors in the Society has been discontinued. For many years three Censors were annually elected, whose duties were similar to those at present performed by the Censors of the *Medical Association of the District*, but in addition, they also acted as the nominating committee for licentiates desiring to become members of the Society.

Section 6 of the act of incorporation is devoted exclusively to the mode of becoming a member of the Society, to which the reader is referred for more definite information. Sections 3 and 4 treat of the granting of licenses, and to whom they shall and may be granted.

Notwithstanding the stringency of the law of Congress, and the powers granted by it to this Society, irregular practitioners* exist among us. But they cannot obtain the full confidence of the community or gain a recognition in the society of educated and respectable physicians. The line of distinction is plainly drawn and firmly maintained. The charter is so manifestly just and reasonable in requiring the Board of Exam-

* Were we to adopt a plan of keeping a complete list or register of the licentiates of the *Medical Society of the District of Columbia* with the Grand Jury and the Chief of Police of the District, whose duty it is, or should be, to prosecute and fine all persons attempting to practice medicine in any of its branches here, without first having complied with the law of Congress in the premises, it is probable the public would be still better protected against the captivating arts of ignorant and designing impostors in the healing art. We do not elaim or desire to dictate to the people what school of physicians they shall employ; but humanity, as well as the letter and spirit of the law chartering this Society, demands of us to license none to practice within the District who are not learned in the science and art of medicine. The least reflection will convince any one that a more than superficial knowledge of the organs of the human frame and the effects upon them by medicinal agents is essentially necessary to prevent fatal consequences at the hands of persons having the temerity to prescribe for the relief of disease. If the self-styled doctors and itinerant advertising quacks, who come here with such unblushing pretensions, were by the Court through the aid of the Police required to obtain a certificate or license, as prescribed by a law of Congress, from the Board of Examiners elected by this Society, declaring that upon an examination held they find the individuals sufficiently skilled in the science and art of medicine and surgery to entitle them to confidence before they be permitted to practice in the District, a very valuable protection would be given to life, public health and morals.

iners to license only those whom "they may, upon a full examination, judge qualified to practice the medical and chirurgical arts," as to afford no occasion for excitement or popular sympathy in favor of any individual who may be excluded.

Experience and public sentiment have thus far fully supported the action of the Society. The power and efficacy of this organization for good rests mainly in the just confidence which the community have, that its officers will not give authority to any person to practice who has not acquired that knowledge of medicine which should entitle him to confidence, or withhold it from any who are properly qualified.

The discordant views previously alluded to, with personal jealousies that unfortunately sprung up in the Society, prevailed to such an extent in 1831, 1832, and 1833, that, for want of a quorum at the annual meetings, the Society, it is believed, failed to elect officers; at least no record of elections can be found. A better feeling, however, began to manifest itself among the members in 1834, '35, '36, and '37, during which years meetings were held, officers elected, and the diseases incident to this section, with the best modes of treatment, discussed without the least suspicion on the part of the members that their charter had been forfeited. This disagreeable fact was not discovered by the Society until a case, involving its powers and privileges, was taken to court, where it was decided that the charter of the *Medical Society of the District of Columbia* had been forfeited by neglect of duty, and consequently no penalties could be incurred under the law creating and establishing it. See *Cranche's Reports*, Vol. 5.

By this time all the original incorporators of the Society, except seven, viz: *Frederick May, Alexander McWilliams, Henry Hunt, William Jones, G. W. May, Peregrine Warfield, and N. W. Worthington*, had either died or left the city. These seven physicians, with fourteen others, who had become members of the Society during the twenty years of its existence, petitioned Congress, on its assembling in 1837, for a revival of the charter of the Society, with amendments; which was granted July 7, 1838.

From that time to the present the *Medical Society of the District of Columbia* has met regularly, and to the best of its ability discharged the duties imposed upon it by the revived charter.

A list of the members of this Society since 1838 is printed with the act of incorporation and the by-laws, in pamphlet form. It is therefore unnecessary to reproduce it here. But, as the book of records and proceedings, with the list of members of the Society prior to the revival of its charter has been lost, I have compiled from the *National Intelligencer* and from other sources, a list of the officers and honorary members, chiefly made up from publications authorized by the Society from time to time. The following is the list, which is believed to be correct, although it may be incomplete :

EXPLANATION OF INITIALS USED.

P.—*President.*

V. P.—*Vice President.*

C.—*Corresponding Secretary.*

R. S.—*Recording Secretary.*

T.—*Treasurer.*

L.—*Librarian.*

E.—*Examiner,* (Board of five.)

C.—*Censor,* (Board of three.)

1817 to 1829.....	P.....	Charles Worthington.
1818.....	V. P.....	Arnold Elzey.
1818 and 1819.....	V. P.....	James H. Blake.
1817 to 1830.....	C. S.....	Henry Hunt.
1818 and 1819.....	R. S.....	Thomas Henderson.
1818 to 1825.....	T.....	William Jones.
1818.....	L.....	Richard Weightman.
1819, 1820, 1822, 1825.....	V. P.....	Frederick May.
1819.....	L.....	N. W. Worthington.
1819.....	E.....	John T. Shaaff.
1819.....	E.....	Charles Worthington.
1819, 1821, 1823.....	E.....	Thomas Sim.
1819.....	E.....	Frederick May.
1819.....	E.....	Thomas Semmes.
1819 and 1823.....	C.....	George W. May.
1819 and 1823.....	C.....	Gustavus A. Brown.
1819, 1822.....	C.....	N. W. Worthington.
1820, 1823.....	V. P.....	William Thornton.
1820, 1821.....	R. S.....	Nathaniel Pope Causin.
1820, 1826.....	E.....	Peregrine Warfield.
1820, 1821.....	E.....	Edward Cutbush.
1820, 1822.....	E.....	George Clark.
1820, 1830.....	E.....	N. P. Causin.

1821, 1824, 1825.....	V. P.....	Edward Cutbush.
1822, 1823.....	R. S.....	N. W. Worthington.
1822, 1823.....	L.....	Elisha Craven.
1822, 1825, 1834, 1835.....	E.....	Joseph Lovell.
1822, 1825.....	E.....	Thomas Henderson.
1823.....	C.....	Benj. S. Bohrer.
1824 to 1827.....	R. S.....	Charles F. Wilstack.
1824 to 1834.....	L.....	J. S. Gunnell.
1824, 1830, 1835.....	E.....	Bailey Washington.
1825, 1827.....	E.....	James M. Stoughton.
1826.....	V. P.....	Joseph Lovell.
1826, 1834.....	R. S.....	John B. Blake.
1826, 1827.....	T.....	C. F. Wilstack.
1826.....	E.....	William Jones.
1826.....	E.....	George W. May.
1827, 1828.....	V. P.....	Thomas Sim.
1827, 1830.....	E.....	Thomas C. Scott.
1827, 1835.....	E.....	Joshua Riley.
1827, 1834.....	E.....	Benj. S. Bohrer.
1828.....	R. S.....	Thomas Henderson.
1829*.....		
1830, 1832.....	P.....	Thomas Sim.
1830.....	V. P.....	Peregrine Warfield.
1830.....	V. P.....	N. P. Causin.
1830.....	C. S.....	Benj. S. Bohrer.
1830.....	T.....	Thomas C. Scott.
1830, 1835.....	E.....	Thomas Sewall.
1831.....		
1832.....		
1833.....		
1834, 1835.....	P.....	Frederick May.
1834, 1835.....	V. P.....	Henry Hunt.
1834, 1835.....	V. P.....	Alexander McWilliams.
1834, 1835.....	C. S.....	N. P. Causin.
1834, 1835.....	R. S.....	Richmond Johnson.
1834, 1835.....	T.....	Harvey Lindley.
1834, 1835.....	E.....	N. W. Worthington.
1835.....	L.....	Thomas Miller.
1817.....		Edmond B. Addison.
1818.....		Elisha Harrison.
1818.....		Richard Randall.

* No publication of the list of officers elected, in 1829, 1831, 1832, and 1833, can be found.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

1819—	Samuel L. Mithill.....	New York.
	John Spence.....	Dumfries, Va.
	William Beans.....	Upper Marlboro', Md.
	Joseph Parrish.....	Philadelphia, Pa.
	James Mann.....	Boston, Mass.
	John H. Chausepie.....	Hamburg.
1820—	John McClellan.....	Greeneastle, Pa.
	Nathaniel Chapman.....	Philadelphia, Pa.
	Joshua Fisher.....	Massachusetts.
1821—	William M. Mercer.....	New Orleans.
	Nathaniel Potter.....	Baltimore.
	Parker Cleveland.....	Brunswick, Me.
	John C. Warren.....	Boston.
	Philip S. Physick.....	Philadelphia, Pa.
	Thomas T. Hewson.....	Philadelphia, Pa.
	James Jackson.....	Boston.
	Daniel Coney.....	Augusta, Me.
	Benjamin Waterhouse.....	Boston.

The *Medical Society of the District of Columbia*, at its meeting in April, 1819, elected Drs. *J. T. Shaaff*, *Thomas Sim*, and *Henry Hunt*, delegates to "*the Convention of the Middle States*," which convened in *Philadelphia* on the 1st of June of that year, for the purpose of forming and publishing an *American Pharmacopœia*.

Our Society again sent delegates to the *National Convention of Physicians*, which held its meeting in the *Capitol* at *Washington*, January 1, 1820, at which the several articles of the *Materia Medica* and the preparations and compounds deemed essential to be enumerated and described in the *United States Pharmacopœia* were adopted, and a committee to attend to its publication was appointed. Here, in the *Capitol of the United States* was prepared, by the deliberations of experienced and scientific physicians from all parts of the country, a work which is truly national in its character, an epitome of medicine, and a grand monument to its authors.

By a wise provision in the regulations of the Convention, meetings are to be held every ten years at the *National Capital* for a revision of the pharmacopœia, and to incorporate into it all valuable discoveries and preparations of Medicine, thus keeping the work fully up with all the

improvements in the science of medicine, and the wants of the profession. Five conventions for the revision of the *United States Pharmacopœia* have already sat in *Washington*. The sixth will meet here on the 1st of January, 1870.

The *Medical Society of the District of Columbia* early and warmly advocated the organization of the *American Medical Association*, and elected three delegates to the first meeting, which was held in *Philadelphia* in May, 1847, under the name of the "*National Medical Convention*." The organization was fully completed at this meeting, a preliminary one having been held in the city of New York, May 12, 1846. The name was changed in *Philadelphia* to the "*American Medical Association*," which held its first meeting under that name May 2, 1848, in the city of *Baltimore*, in which our Society was represented by five delegates. The *Medical Society of the District of Columbia* has rarely failed to be ably represented in each of the annual meetings of the *American Medical Association*; and in 1858, when that influential body sat in this city, our worthy associate, Dr. *Harvey Lindsay*, was elected and served as President.

In 1825 and 1826, during a period of the most active discontent among the members of the *Medical Society of the District of Columbia*, a very determined effort was made by a few physicians of *Washington* and *Georgetown* to form a new medical society, which should supersede the chartered organization. The profession was thoroughly canvassed, and several meetings were held in the interest of the movement, which at first promised to be successful. The following is a copy of a call for a meeting, which appeared in the *National Intelligencer* of the 5th April, 1826:

"NOTICE.—A meeting of the physicians of *Washington* and *Georgetown* who have agreed to form a medical association, is requested at the *City Hall*, on Tuesday, the 6th instant, [April, 1826,] at 12 o'clock M."

The project was encouraged by the presence of Drs. *F. May* and *T. Henderson*, the former of whom was elected Chairman, and the latter Secretary, of the meeting. Two subsequent meetings were held at the same place, one on the 10th and the other the 11th of April.

1826, but without effecting the purpose of the originators of the movement. The effect, however, was to confirm parties in their diverse opinions, and was to that extent injurious to the Society, which is always benefited by harmonizing sentiment and encouraging associate action. The profession must have continued to grow indifferent to, if not decidedly adverse to the success or even the existence of the Society; for we find the following in the *National Intelligencer* of January 23, 1828:

"MEDICAL SOCIETY.—A meeting of the *Medical Society of the District of Columbia* will be held on Wednesday, the 23d instant, [January, 1828,] at the *City Hall*, the object of the meeting being to decide whether the Society shall in future hold its sittings.

THOMAS HENDERSON,
Recording Secretary."

A sincere love for the welfare of the Society controlled the action of a majority of its members, and the attempt to have the Society decree its own dissolution was defeated, which, however, occurred at a later period in an unexpected manner, as has been noticed.

The next medical association organized within the *District of Columbia* was the "*Washington Medical Society*." This association was formed in 1826, and although its membership was confined originally to the professors and students of the *Medical Department of Columbian College*, for the encouragement of systematic study, it eventually admitted local practitioners, and assumed many of the duties and characteristics of ordinary medical associations. The Society annually elected an Orator from among the students, who delivered a discourse, to which the profession and the public were invited. It was customary to elect the President from among the professors, and all other officers from the ranks of the students. As soon as the students graduated they were made honorary members of the Society. A Board of seven *Examiners* was elected, corresponding to the divisions in which the science of medicine was then taught in the college, whose duty it was to recapitulate lectures and quiz the Society upon all subjects within their respective branches. The Society held its meetings in the *Medical College*. Many of the discussions and demonstrations

before this association were not only instructive and valuable to the student, but highly appreciated by the general practitioner. The Society elected a long list of honorary members, to whom was given, as well as to all regular members, a handsomely engraved certificate of membership in latin, printed on parchment, and signed by the president and secretary.

In 1831 the offices of the Society were all filled by Doctors of Medicine engaged in practice here, the students seeming to lose interest in it, in proportion as the local professors gave it support. This, too, was at a period when the *Medical Society of the District of Columbia* was under its heaviest cloud of neglect. But the zeal which had been manifested in the success of the *Washington Medical Society* exhausted itself in 1832, after which period it seems never to have met. The records of this Society are supposed to be lost.

The following is a list of the active and honorary members, collected from the different publications authorized by the Society, from the city press, arranged in alphabetical order :

Baltzer, R. M.	Henderson, Thomas	Nourse, Benj. F.
Barry, R. T.	Higgins, James M.	Richardson, Peter T.
Boon, John	Higgins, Montgomery	Robertson, McK
Bulfinch, Charles	Hodges, Gonsalvo	Roberts, Thomas
Borrows, Joseph	Hodson, Lewis	Rose, Benjamin F.
Craig, John E.	Hughes, James W.	Sewall, Thomas
Davis, A. McD.	Huntt, Henry	Stanford, Arthur M.
Davis, Charles W.	Jewett, S. G.	Staughton, J. M.
Ditty, Thomas D.	Kerr, Samuel J. S.	Stewart, James E.
Dixon, John	Lewis, T. M.	Sutter, Alexander F.
Dunn, J. Irwin	Maffitt, William	Waring, J.
Edmonds, John F.	May, Frederick	Walters, Thomas
Eliot, Johnson	McKenney, George W.	Williams, P.
Halmead, A.	McLean, Charles	Worthington, N. W.
Hamilton, John	Miller, Thomas R.	Young, Noble
Handy, C. W.	Morton, William	

HONORARY MEMBERS.

Barry, Robt. T.	Dist. of Col.	Coney, Daniel	Maine.
Borrows, Joseph	Do.	Coney, Robert A.	Do.
Causin, N. P.	Do.	Craig, John E.	Dist. of Col.
Chapman, Nath.	Pennsylvania.	Cutbush, Edward.	Do.
Condict, H. F.	Dist. of Col.	Davis, A. McD.	Do.

Davis, Chas. W.....	Do.	McWilliams, Joseph...	
Dunn, J. Irvin.....		More, T. F.....	Maryland.
Edmonds, John N.....	Virginia.	Nourse, B. F.....	Dist. of Col.
Elliot, J. B.....	Dist. of Col.	Osborn, Leonard.....	U. S. Navy.
Ewell, Jesse.....	Do.	Physick, P. S.....	Pennsylvania
Gibson, W.....	Pennsylvania.	Randall, Richard.....	
Hagan, James.....	Dist. of Col.	Richardson, P T.....	
Hall, J. C.....	Do.	Sewall, Thomas.....	Dist. of Col.
Hamilton, John.....	Do.	Sewall, Thomas R.....	
Henderson, Thomas...	Do.	Spence, John.....	Virginia.
Higgins, J. M.....		Stanford, A. M.....	
Hodges, Gonsalvo.....		Staughton, J. M.....	
Horner, W. E.....		Stewart, J. E.....	
Jacobs, Therriis.....		Stewart, Joseph N....	Dist. of Col.
Jones, Thomas P.....	Dist. of Col.	Stone, C. H.....	Tennes ee.
Kirkwood, Robert.....	Do.	Upham, Timothy.....	
Laub, Charles K.....	Do.	Wing, B. F.....	Massachusetts.
Massey, Reuben.....	Connecticut.	Worthington, Chas....	Dist. of Col.
May, F.....	Dist. of Col.	Worthington, N. W....	Do.
May, G. W.....	Do.	Young, Noble.....	Do.
McLean, Charles.....	Do.	Zellicoffer, William...	Maryland.
McWilliams, Alex.....	Do.		

In chronological order, the next medical organization effected in the District, and which is scarcely second to any in the important influence it exercises over the profession, was the *Medical Association of Washington*, the parent of the *Medical Association of the District of Columbia*. The first meeting preliminary to the formation of this Association was held at the *Washington Lyceum*, on the 4th of January, 1833. The meeting was not advertised, but the practitioners of the city had been waited upon and requested to attend. The physicians who seem to have taken the lead in the establishment of this Association were Doctors *Joseph Lovell*, *Thomas Miller*, and *Thomas Henderson*. The attendance, even at the first meeting, was good. Dr. *Henry Hunt* was requested to take the chair, and Dr. *Thomas Miller* was appointed secretary. The object of the meeting was fully stated, and the project unanimously approved. A second meeting was called by a written circular sent to each practitioner, requesting his attendance at the same place, on the 7th of January, 1833. This meeting was attended by the following physicians, as shown by the records: *Alexander Mc Wil-*

liams, Henry Hunt, Thomas Sewall, Joseph Lovell, Richmond Johnson, Thomas Henderson, Harvey Lindsly, J. Warring, J. M. Thomas, T. Miller, and A. McD. Davis.

Other physicians of the city, whose names do not appear among those attending this meeting, were known to favor the project, some of whom were named upon a committee of six, who, with the chairman, were appointed at this time to draft a system of ethics and a fee bill, and report at a meeting to be held at the same place on the 11th of the same month, of which meeting the chairman was directed to give public notice by advertisement in the papers of the city. This committee consisted of the following physicians: *F. May, A. McWilliams, N. P. Causin, J. Lovell, T. Sewall, T. Henderson, and the chairman, Henry Hunt.*

The call for the meeting to receive the report is in the following words:

“NOTICE.—An adjourned meeting of the *practitioners of medicine in Washington* will be held on Friday, the 11th instant, (January, 1833,) at 4 o'clock p. m., at the *Lyceum*, to act finally on business of great importance to the medical profession in the city.

II. HUNTT,
Chairman.”

THOMAS MILLER, *Secretary.*

The committee reported, through Dr. *Joseph Lovell*, the draft of a code of ethics and a fee bill, which, with but slight amendments, were unanimously adopted. including the resolution for carrying them into effect. The substance of the resolution was that the proceedings of the meetings which had been held be transcribed into a book, together with the regulations and fee bill, and that a committee be appointed to present the same to the different practitioners for their signature, which when received, a meeting of the Association should be called for the transaction of other business.

The following is a copy of the call, which appeared in the *National Intelligencer* of the 18th of January, 1833:

“MEDICAL ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON.—A meeting of this Association will be held on Friday, the 18th instant, at 5 o'clock p. m., at the *Medical Col-*

lege, for the election of officers, and for the transaction of other business.

JOSEPH LOVELL,
THOMAS HENDERSON,
THOMAS MILLER,
Committee."

At this meeting the Association was fully organized by the election of the following officers:

DR. FREDERICK MAY,	<i>President.</i>	
DR. THOMAS MILLER,	<i>Secretary.</i>	
DR. ALEX. McWILLIAMS,		} <i>Counsellors.</i>
DR. HENRY HUNT,		
DR. THOMAS SEWALL,		
DR. JOSEPH LOVELL,		
DR. JOSEPH BORROWS,		

This Association began at once to exercise a benign influence among its members, and establish harmony in their professional intercourse. From the time of its organization to the present it has retained the confidence and received the support of the profession of the District.

In May, 1844, Dr. *Thomas Miller* offered a resolution in the Association, instructing the counsellors to confer with the physicians of *Georgetown*, and request them to place themselves under the government and rules of the Association in regard to their practice within the limits of *Washington City*.

The counsellors accordingly addressed a letter upon the subject, with a copy of the resolution, to Dr. *B. S. Bohrer*, at the time the senior physician in *Georgetown*. At a meeting of the Association held in June, 1844, the counsellors reported that the physicians of *Georgetown* consented to the terms proposed by the *Medical Association of Washington*.

The records of the Association contain no further allusion to the physicians of *Georgetown* until the 27th of March, 1848, when a memorial signed by them, proposing to enter the *Medical Association of Washington*, was received and is entered upon the minutes. It is in the following language:

"The undersigned, practitioners of medicine in *Georgetown, D. C.*, wishing to unite, for the promotion of the dignity, usefulness, and general interests of the profession, feel that these objects and interests are common to themselves and their brethren of *Washington*, and for reasons too palpable to require enu-

meration, based chiefly upon our contiguity of residence and frequent professional intercourse, and sensible that they can be promoted and protected only by a common professional polity and cherished spirit of mutual good will. The undersigned therefore desire, and hereby request to be admitted as members of the *Medical Association of Washington*, and respectfully ask that hereafter it be designated the *Medical Association of Washington and Georgetown*.

HEZEKIAH MAGRUDER, M. D.
GRAFTON TYLER, M. D.
JOSHUA A. RITCHIE, M. D.
CHARLES H. CRAGIN, M. D.
ALEXANDER MATHEWS, M. D.
ISAAC S. LAUCK, M. D."

A letter was at the same time presented from Doctors *Joshua Riley* and *Benjamin S. Bohrer*, stating their willingness to enter the Association, provided they were allowed to fulfill certain engagements to attend families by the year.

The petition and letter were referred to a special committee of three, consisting of Doctors *Thomas Miller*, *J. F. May*, and *Joseph Borrowes*, with instructions to report upon the subject at the next meeting.

In anticipation of a favorable report, Dr. *Cornelius Boyle* offered a resolution in the Association that the name of the *Medical Association of Washington* be changed to "*The Medical Association of the District of Columbia*." This resolution, under the rules, had to lie over until the next regular meeting. On the 6th of June, 1848, the Association met, and the resolution of Dr. *Boyle* was adopted, and at a subsequent meeting the report of the special committee upon the admission of the *Georgetown* physicians was adopted, and is in the following language:

"*Resolved 1st*, That the prayer of our brother practitioners of *Georgetown, D. C.*, be granted, and that they may be admitted members of the *Medical Association of the District of Columbia*, in the manner prescribed by the rules and regulations of said Society.

"*Resolved 2d*, That all the regular practitioners, physicians, and surgeons of *Georgetown*, who may join this Association, and who have existing contracts with families or individuals to attend them by the year, be allowed to continue such contracts—it being, however, understood that they are to make no new contracts from and after joining this Association; and when the present contracts expire, that they are not to be renewed."

The *Georgetown* physicians accepted the conditions, when, on motion of Dr. Noble Young, they were, by a unanimous vote, admitted to full membership in the *Medical Association of the District of Columbia*.

The extension of the advantages of the Association to the physicians of *Georgetown* and the District has had a most salutary influence upon the profession.

This Association is charged with the special province of sustaining the ethics of the profession, and fixing the standard of fees to be charged—duties which it has performed to the satisfaction of its members. In the thirty-three years of its existence there has been no instance of expulsion of a member; and when professional differences have arisen, they have been settled either by a candid explanation of the parties themselves, or by an appeal to the counsellors, whose duty it is made to investigate and adjust such differences in a manner that will be just to the parties and support the dignity of the profession. The decisions of the counsellors have always commanded the confidence and respect of the Association.

The "*Medical Association of Washington*," now the "*Medical Association of the District of Columbia*," sent four delegates to the *American Medical Association*, which met in *Baltimore* May 2, 1848. From that period until 1866, when the same body again met in *Baltimore*, this Association had not sent delegates, having left that duty wholly with the *Medical Society*; but on again claiming representation it was allowed, and her ten duly elected delegates took their seats in the Nineteenth Annual Convention of American physicians.

A complete list of the members of the *Medical Association of the District of Columbia* is to be found attached to the printed code of ethics, regulations, and fee bills, and need not be reproduced here.

The next medical association, which invites our attention in reviewing the medical organizations of the District, was the section on physiology and Medicine in the "*National Institute*." This Institute, as you are aware, was formed in 1840 out of, or absorbed into itself, the "*Columbian Institute*" and the "*American Historical Society*," all of

which have finally entombed themselves in the "*Smithsonian Institution*." Different sections were established in the Institution for the discussion of subjects connected with the various branches of science. The medical men of the District who were members mostly attended the section on medicine, where for years there were carried on investigations and discussions of great interest and scientific value to the profession. January 12, 1843, the Association addressed a circular to the profession generally, inviting contributions. For several years this section sent delegates to the *American Medical Association*, where they were received, and took part in the business and discussions in that body. A communication or report from this section of the *National Institute* on the hygienic condition of the United States, was made in 1848 by Doctors *James Wynne*, *Thomas Sewall*, *J. M. Thomas*, *Bailey Washington*, and *Marcus Buck* to the *American Medical Association*, which is published in the 1st vol. of its transactions.

The following is a list of the resident physicians who were members of the Institute, compiled from the published list, and from other sources. They were not all, however, practitioners of medicine, and it is important only as indicating the individuals of the profession who were devoted to study and scientific research.

Baird, Spencer F.	Hall, F.	Purinton, Tobias
Barelay, James D.	Howard, Flodoardo	Riley, Joshua
Bohrer, Benj. S.	Johnston, W. P.	Sewall, Thomas
Borrows, Joseph	Jones, Thomas P.	Smith, Gideon B.
Breed, Daniel	Jones, William	Smoot, Samuel C.
Buck, Marcus C.	King, B.	Snell, J.
Causin, N. P.	King, Henry	Southgate, Robert
Causten, James H.	Lawson, Thomas	Thomas, J. M.
Craigin, James H.	Liebermann, Charles H.	Thornton, J. B. C.
Davis, Alex. McD.	Lindsly, Harvey	Towle, N. S.
Feinour, Thomas	Magruder, W. B.	Tyler, Grafton
Fry, T. B. J.	May, J. Frederick	Tysowski, John
Gale, Leonard D.	McClery, J. F. J.	Van Buren, W. H.
Gunton, J. H.	McWilliams, A.	Van Patten, C. H.
Hall, James C.	Miller, Thomas	Wynne, James
Harris, Thomas	Page, Charles G.	Young, Noble
How, Henry	Pickering, Charles	

December 9, 1841, the *Pathological Society of the District of Columbia* was formed. Doctors *Hobson, Howard, Johnston, Lindsly, Miller*, and *Smoot* attended the first meeting. Dr. *Thomas Miller* was chosen Chairman, and Dr. *W. P. Johnston*, Secretary. A committee of three, consisting of the Chairman, Secretary, and Dr. *S. C. Smoot*, were appointed to report a Constitution and By-Laws for the government of the Society. The committee reported on the 16th of December, and the Constitution was adopted, and the following officers elected to serve until January, 1843:

THOMAS MILLER, M. D., <i>President.</i>	THOMAS SEWALL, M. D.,
J. C. HALL, M. D., <i>Vice President.</i>	HARVEY LINDSLY, M. D.,
W. P. JOHNSTON, M. D., <i>Sec'y and Treas'r.</i>	JOSEPH BORROWS, M. D.,
S. C. SMOOT, M. D., <i>Curator.</i>	<i>Standing Committee.</i>

The object of the Society is thus stated in the second article of the Constitution: "The collection and preservation of pathological specimens, the encouragement of the habit of close observation of disease, of rigorous deductions from well established facts; finally, the promotion of good feeling among its members."

The regular meetings of the Society were held every two weeks, in the hall of the old *Medical College*, corner of Tenth and E streets, when either a recent pathological specimen was exhibited, an essay read, or an unusual and rare case detailed which would bring a subject practically before them for discussion.

In January, 1843, Dr. *Thomas Sewall* was elected President, Dr. *Thomas Miller*, Vice President, and Dr. *Flodoardo Howard* Secretary. Dr. *W. P. Johnston* was at the same time elected Curator, and Doctors *Joseph Borrows, Baily Washington*, and *J. C. Hall*, the Standing Committee. The books of the Society give a record of but two meetings after this date until 1846. Personal jealousies, or want of interest in the objects of the Association, caused finally an entire discontinuance of its meetings.

March 11, 1846, a meeting of the physicians of the District was convened at the *City Infirmary*. Dr. *T. Miller* was called to the chair, and Dr. *F. Howard* appointed Secretary. The object of the

meeting having been stated, which was to revive or reorganize the *Pathological Society*. Dr. *W. P. Johnston* moved to adopt the Constitution and By-Laws of the former *Pathological Society*; which was adopted. The Society then elected the following officers: Dr. *Thomas Miller*, President; Dr. *J. C. Hall*, Vice President; Dr. *F. Howard*, Secretary; Dr. *F. King*, Curator; and as a Standing Committee, Doctors *Joshua Riley*, *J. M. Thomas*, and *W. P. Johnston*. There is no record after 1st of April, 1846, of any meeting having been held for some years.

July 27, 1852, the *Pathological Society* met at the *City Infirmary*, pursuant to a call. Some physicians were nominated for membership, and a committee of five, viz, Doctors *R. K. Stone*, *T. Miller*, *W. P. Johnston*, *J. M. Austin*, and *F. Howard*, appointed to revise and report what amendments, if any, were desirable in the Constitution and By-Laws. A report was made on the 6th of August, and adopted, and the purposes of the Society thus set forth in Article 2d: "The object of the Society shall be the encouragement of the habit of close observation of disease, and of vigorous deductions from well established facts, by the presentation of pathological specimens, the relation of cases, and the reading of essays on medical subjects, and finally the promotion of harmony and good fellowship among its members." Dr. *Miller* was again elected President; Dr. *Hall*, Vice President; and Dr. *A. Y. P. Garnett*, Secretary. The offices of Curator and the Standing Committee were discontinued. The Society at this time held its meetings weekly, during the winter, in the hall of the *Georgetown Medical College*, and were well attended. Omissions of whole years sometimes occur in the records, and the Society ceased entirely to meet after 1857. Dr. *Grafton Tyler*, of *Georgetown*, possesses the book of records of the *Pathological Society* from its origin in 1841 to the close of the year 1852. I was fortunate enough to buy, at an auction in this city, the volume of records of the *Pathological Society*, which covers the period from January, 1853, until it ceased to meet in 1857. This volume has been deposited in the library of the Society for preservation.

1853-1857

The following is an alphabetical list of the members of the *Pathological Society of the District of Columbia*, made up from these records :

Addison, R.	Foree, C. F.†	Miller, T.
Austin, J. M.	Frye, T. B. J.	Morgan, J. E.
Berry, W. H.	Garnett, A. Y. P.	Munding, J. M.
Blanchard, S. B.	Grymes, J. M.	Newman, N. H.†
Bogan, M. V. B.	Grinnell, F. M.	Palmer, W. G.
Borrows, J.	Hagner, D. H.	Radeliff, S. J.
Boyle, C.	Hall, J. C.	Riley, J.
Busey, S. C.	Holmead, A.	Riley, J. C.
Butt, W. B.	Harris, T.	Ritchie, J.
Carmichael, E. H.	Hill, F. H.	Ritter, F. W.
Causin, N. P.	Hoben, H.	Saunders, W. H.
Causten, J. H.	Howard, F.	Semmes, A. J.
Combs, J. G.	Howard, H. P.	Sewall, T.
Coolidge, R. H.	Johnston, W. P.	Smoot, S. C.
Condiet, H. F.	Jones, W.	Snyder, J. M.
Cragin, C. H.	Liebermann, C. H.	Stone, R. K.
Craig, B. S.	Lindsly, H.	Storrow, S. A.
Davis, A. McD.	Lippett, W. F.	Thomas, J. M.
Dawes, F.	Lovejoy, J. W. H.	Tyler, G.
Dove, G. M.	Magruder, W. B.	Tyson, S. E.
Dovilliers, S.	Marbury, W.	Washington, B.
Duhammel, W. J. C.	May, F.	Wheelan, W.
Dyer, J. J.	May, G. W.	Wilson, J.
Edwards, L. A.	May, J. F.	Wotherspoon, A. S.
Eliot, J.	McKim, S. A. H.	Young, A. X.
Everett, S. W.	McWilliams, A.	Young, N.
Fairfax J.*		

The Pathological Society was represented by two delegates in the American Medical Association in 1853, as may be seen by reference to the complete list of members of that Association from the District of Columbia, at the end of this paper.

Early in 1855 the alumni of the *Medical Department of Georgetown College* formed a *Medico-Chirurgical Society* in Washington. They met quarterly for the purpose of presenting and reading essays on medical subjects, holding discussions, and for social enjoyment. After a number of preliminary meetings, the organization was completed under the name of the "*Medical Alumni Association of Georgetown College*," by the adoption of a constitution and by-laws, and the election of officers for the ensuing year, which were as follows :

* Visiting member.

† Resigned.

S. J. RADCLIFF, *President.*

W. EVANS, *1st Vice President.*

J. HALL MOORE, *2d Vice President.*

J. V. D. MIDDLETON, *Recording Sec'y.*

O. A. DAILY, *Corresponding Secretary.*

T. C. MCINTIRE, *Treasurer.*

JOS. A. SMITH, *Librarian.*

This Society, although starting with much promise, was soon permitted to die.

After the retrocession, in 1846, of that part of the District of Columbia south of the *Potomac river* to *Virginia*, when the physicians of that section ceased to take part in the proceedings of this Society, the medical men of *Alexandria* established among themselves a sort of *Medical Club*, which, however, was as much for the purpose of social intercourse as for the advancement of medical science. But in 1858 they organized a regular *Medical Society*, of which Dr. *Orlando Fairfax* was elected President, and Dr. *Chas. W. Chancellor*, Secretary.

The following are the names of as many of the members as I could ascertain, the records having been lost or mislaid during the war :

Dr. Orlando Fairfax,	Dr. M. M. Lewis,	Dr. W. H. Gaines,
Dr. T. J. Murphy,	Dr. W. B. Gregory,	Dr. D. M. French,
Dr. C. W. Chancellor,	Dr. James Maguire,	Dr. R. H. Stabler.
Dr. J. Conway Brown,		

This Society met regularly every month, but some of the members met more frequently during winter for dissections and scientific discussions. Its members were active and punctual in reading papers, producing pathological specimens, and reporting cases ; so that it was a real working and useful Society. Its meetings were continued until the political distractions of the country, and the commencement of the war disarranged the peaceful pursuits of the place, and rendered the operations of the Society impracticable.

The one remaining medical organization claiming our attention, and the last formed in *Washington*, is the "*Clinico Pathological Society*," formed in 1865 by twelve of the junior practitioners of the city. The object of the Society, as expressed in the By-Laws, is "for mutual improvement in diagnosis and clinical observation." The number of active members of the Society is limited to sixteen. The meetings are held weekly during the winter, in the rooms of the *Medical Society*. They have already collected some very valuable pathological specimens. The care with which they report cases, and the character of the papers read, are spoken of as manifesting close study, as well as professional acumen. This Society is permanent in its character, and

was represented at the meeting of the *American Medical Association* in 1866.

The following is a list of its members :

Drinkard, W. R.	Middleton, H. P.	Todd, S. J.
Ford, C. M.	Prentiss, D. W.	Walsh, R. S. L.
Harris, J. O.*	Robbins, H.	Young, J. T.
King, A. F. A.	Roberts, W. E.	Zevely, E. A.*
Lee, W.	Thompson, J. F.	

The foregoing is a brief sketch of all the various medical associations which have been organized, so far as we are acquainted, within the *District of Columbia*, and to some one or all of which most of the practitioners of the District have belonged.

The following list of physicians is collected from professional cards appearing in the *National Intelligencer* and other papers published in the District from 1800 to 1840. They are arranged in the order in which they appeared. These advertisements do not determine with accuracy the year in which the physicians named commenced to practice in *Washington*, but nevertheless do so approximately.

In 1833 eight physicians settled in *Washington* to practice; a larger number than in any one year prior to that time. Some successful and well-known physicians did not announce themselves by public advertisements. The list comprises only those who published cards:

1800—Dr. William King.	1813—George Clarke,
1801—Dr. Harrison,	George A. Carroll,
James Tongue.	Dr. Warfield,
1803—John Willis.	Dr. Hunt.
1804—Dr. Benson.	1815—George W. May.
1805—Thomas Ewell.	1816—Samuel Horsley,
1806—Dr. Brisco.	Dr. Baker,
1808—Dr. Lancaster,	Dr. Henderson.
James H. Blake,	1817—Elisha Harrison,
Gerard T. Greenfield,	Edmond B. Addison,
William Grayson.	Richard Weightman.
1809—Robert French.	1818—N. P. Causin.
1810—James Ewell,	1820—Thomas Sewall.
N. T. Weems.	1821—Jonathan Barber.

* Resigned.

1823—Dr. Scott, Dr. Collins.	Dr. Jones, Joseph Kent, Dr. Mayo.
1824—Dr. Penn.	1831—Dr. Waring, Joseph N. Stewart.
1825—Richard Randall, Dr. Kerr, William Baker, John D. Sinnott,	1832—Thomas Miller, W. B. Magruder.
1826—Dr. Leonard Mackall, Dr. Hamilton, Jesse Ewell, Abraham B. Hooc, Dr. Gilroy, Dr. Elison.	1833—D. McClean, George R. Clarke, J. Munding, E. A. Theller, Cocilus B. Calvert, M. L. Weems, Elbert Dorman, Moreau Forrest.
1827—Thomas T. Telbbs, Dr. Briseo, Dr. Thomas.	1835—A. J. Schwartz, Thomas Dashiell.
1828—N. Young, John Bulfinch, Dr. Taylor, Harvey Lindsly, Jerome Mudd.	1836—Francis Lambert. 1837—Dr. J. M. Thomas.
1829—Frederick Dawes, Dr. Cutbush, J. C. Hall.	1838—Daniel Bren, Dr. Tucker, D. Spencer Mitchell.
1830—Dr. Kearney, Dr. Stanford, A. Holmead,	1839—William Jones, James A. Young.
	1840—W. R. Rose, G. M. Dove, C. H. Liebermann.

It is estimated that a population of from six hundred to twelve hundred is required to employ the time and give support to a physician. The number would vary, of course, between country and city practice, and between healthy and unhealthy localities. Although we have not the exact data by which to test the correctness of this estimate as regards the *District of Columbia* and the city of *Washington*, yet from the evidence before us we are disposed to believe that in the past the supply has been rather below than above this ratio.

The following table shows the population of the District at every decade since 1800 :

YEARS.	Whole Dis- trict.	Washington.	Georgetown and County.	Washington County.	Alexandria.
1800.....	14,093	3,210	4,934	.....	5,949
1810.....	24,033	8,208	4,949	.....	7,227
1820.....	33,039	13,247	7,360	.....	8,371
1830.....	39,834	18,827	8,441	.....	8,268
1840.....	43,792	23,364	7,312	3,069	9,967
1850.....	51,687	40,001	8,366	3,320	*
1860.....	75,080	61,122	8,733	5,225	*

In 1797 the estimated population of *Washington* was 2,000. There were at that time at least three practicing physicians here. In 1815, when the population of *Washington* was between 11,000 and 12,000, there were nine physicians and two practicing apothecaries. *Alexandria* in 1790 had a population of 2,749, with at least five physicians. In 1815, with a population of less than 8,000, it had ten practicing physicians and several practicing apothecaries. The census of 1850 takes note of occupations, and shows that in the *District of Columbia*, which includes *Washington City*, *Georgetown*, and the *County*, with a population of 51,000, there were 104 physicians and 48 apothecaries.†

The census of 1860, taken in the same way, shows that the District, with its population of 75,080, had 148 physicians and 89 apothecaries. The census report, it is proper to say, includes as physicians all persons styling themselves doctors who are engaged in practice, no matter as to their character, sex, or qualifications.

The population of the District at this time is probably not less than 120,000. From the best data I can gather it is fair to presume that there are now about 150 regularly qualified practicing physicians, and perhaps from 40 to 50 persons practicing the various pathies and styles of quackery known to the times.

Up to about 1820 the physicians of the District generally dispensed their own medicines, writing prescriptions only in special cases or for particular medicines. The bad condition of the streets and the widely

* Alexandria was not included in the census of the District in 1850 and 1860.

† In cities there are generally two regular physicians to one apothecary. In villages and in rural situations the proportion of physicians is greater.

scattered situation of the houses in the city deprived them almost entirely of the use of gigs and carriages. Physicians then travelled their daily rounds chiefly on horseback, with packages of medicines in their pockets or in saddle-bags. Drug stores before this period were chiefly owned and conducted by physicians. The proprietors, however, whether regular physicians or not, engaged more or less in practice.

Prior to 1850 the practice of medicine in the *District of Columbia*, as a general fact, was laborious and unremunerative. But one physician in *Alexandria*, and perhaps two in *Washington*, anterior to this date, had accumulated any considerable property, or made more than a respectable living by their profession. Of late years the fees for professional services have been more adequate, and paid with greater promptness and certainty, owing chiefly to the increased prosperity and wealth of the majority of the inhabitants. The examples with us now are comparatively numerous where physicians, by energy and skill in the profession, and tact in the management of their business and prudent investments, have accumulated handsome fortunes.

On inquiry and search I have collected the names of over 200 physicians (now deceased) who, since the settlement of this section, have practiced medicine at some period of their lives within the territory of the "*Ten Miles Square*."

The following is the list, and, although designed to be complete, it is apprehended that it does not contain the names of all, and may be inaccurate in other respects. It will be considered a favor for any person to supply the author with deficiencies, so as to enable him to correct errors of omission or commission in this or any part of the address. The letters on the margin opposite the name indicate the city in which the physician resided.

*Died.**Æt.*

W.	Ashton, Henry	June 10, 1854	29
W.	Anderson, Samuel Irvin		
W.	Anderson, Thomas		
A	Arnold, William		
W.	Ashby, Chas. W.		
W.	Austin, James M.		
G	Baker, William	March 12, 1812	
W.	Baker, William		
W.	1828. Baldwin, ———		
W.	Barber, Jonathan		
W.	Barry, Robert T.	August 14, 1857	
W.	Beall, J. H.		
G	1782. Beatty, Charles A	October 13, 1838	76
W.	Benson, ———		
W.	Berry, William H.	February 20, 1859	
A	1800. Black, Robert		
W.	1808. Blake, James H	July 29, 1819	52
	Bodie, G. W.		
G	Bohrer, Benj. S	August 19, 1862	
W.	Branch, Richard H	March 30, 1835	
W.	Brant, Daniel	January 26, 1839	22
W.	Brereton, John A.	March 21, 1839	
W.	Briseo, Edward	March 10, 1815	
W.	Briseo, R.		
A	Brown, G. Alex	1835	
	Brown, Raleigh T.		
W.	1794. Brown, Samuel		
A	Brown, William		
G	Bruce, Philip		
A	Campbell, G. Brown	December 9, 1799	
W.	Carmichael, E. H.		
W.	Carroll, Geo. A.		
A	Carson, Samuel	January 23, 1831	83
W.	Causin, Nath'l Pope	November 14, 1849	
	Causten, James H.	October 5, 1856	
W.	Christy, Francis C.		
	Clark, Edward		
G	Clark, George	October 5, 1822	
W.	Clinton, Thomas G.		
	Collins, James		
	Collins, Stephen		
A	1791. Cooke, Stephen		

	<i>Died,</i>	<i>Æt.</i>
W.....	Coolidge, Richard H.....January 23, 1866.....	46
G.....1801.....	Cozens, ———	
A.....	Craik, James.....February 6, 1814.....	84
W.....	Craven, Elisha R.....December 4, 1823.....	
W.....1796.....	Crocker, John.....	
A.....	Crighton, Robert.....November 18, 1801....	67
W.....1796.....	Cunningham, Cornelius.....	
W.....	Cutbush, Edward.....1843.....	71
W.....	Dale, George.....	
A.....	Dangerfield, Allen.....	
A.....	Dangerfield, Henry.....	
W.....	Dawes, Frederick.....February 10, 1852.....	74
A.....	Dakins, Joseph.....	
A.....	Diek, Elisha Cullen.....September 29, 1829....	72
W.....	Dorman, Albert.....	
	Dorman, George.....	
A.....	Dulaney, F.....	
A.....	Edmonds, John R.....1855.....	
W.....	Eliason, William.....	
W.....	Elzey, Arnold.....June 6, 1818.....	63
	Evans, Thomas.....	
W.....1850.....	Everett, S. W.....April 6, 1862.....	42
W.....	Ewell, James.....1832.....	
W.....	Ewell, Thomas.....May 1, 1826.....	
W.....	Feetig, Lewis R.....	
A.....	Ferish, ———	
A.....	Fitzhugh, Edmond.....	
W.....	Forrest, Moreau.....	
	Forry, Samuel.....	
G.....	French, Robert.....August, 1835.....	48
G.....	Gantt, Edward.....August, 1837.....	96
	Gibson, ———	
W.....	Gillaspy, ———	
A.....	Gillies, James.....	
W.....	Gilroy, ———	
W.....	Graham, Wm. H.....	
G.....	Grayson, Wm.....	
A.....1760.....	Green, ———	
W.....	Greenfield, Gerard T.....	
A.....	Grimes, Robert C.....	
W.....	Grymes, James M.....	
W.....	Gunnell, J. S.....	
G.....	Gustine, Joel T.....	
G.....	Gustine, Robert.....	
W.....	Hagan, James.....1830.....	

	<i>Died.</i>	<i>Æt.</i>
A	Hall, B. H.	
W.	Holmead, Anthony	October 26, 1855.
A	Hamilton, James	
W.	Hamilton, C. B.	
W.	Hanson, Samuel	
A	Harper, W.	
W.	Harrison, Elisha	August 24, 1819. 57
W.	Harrison, John	March 4, 1825.
W.	Hawkins, ———	
W.	Hellen, Johnson B.	July 3, 1864.
G	Henderson, Thomas	August 11, 1854. 65
W.	Hoban, Henry	April 5, 1865. 48
W.	Hodges, Benjamin	May, 1864
W.	Horsley, Samuel	
A1792.	Hosack, David	December 13, 1835. 66
W.	Howard, H. P.	
A	Hoxton, William	
A	Hunter, A.	
W.	Huntt, Henry	September 21, 1838. 56
W.	Jackson, John	
W.	Jackson, Samuel	
W.	Jacobs, Ferris	
W.	James, Samuel	
W.	Johnson, James T.	
W.	Jones, Elkin	
W.	Jones, T. D.	
W.	Jones, Thomas P.	1848. 75
W.	Kearney, John A.	August 27, 1847. 54
W.	Kerr, Robert	
G	King, H.	
	King, John F.	
G1800.	King, William	
W.	Kirkwood, W. C.	
W.	Lancaster, ———	
G	Lauck, Isaac S.	May 17, 1864.
A1766.	Lawrie, James	
W.	Laurie, Shepherd	August 8, 1852 30
A	Lindsay, R. W.	
W.	Lindsly, Webster	August 7, 1866. 31
W.	Lovell, Joseph	October 17, 1836.
W.	May, Frederick	January 23, 1847.
W.	May, Geo. W.	1845.
W.	Mayo, Robert	
W.	McKnight, Geo. B.	May 18, 1857. 65
	McMahon, J. P. C.	

	<i>Died.</i>	<i>Æt.</i>
W.....	McWilliams, Alex.....	March 30, 1850.....
W.....	McWilliams, William.....	
W.....	Miller, B. J.....	September 17, 1837....
	Minor, John.....	
W.....	Mitchell, Stephen.....	
W.....	Mountz, John.....	
	Morrison, ———	
G.....	Mudd, Jerome.....	
W.....	Munding, J. M.....	
W.....	Nourse, Benj. F.....	May 19, 1836..... 30
W.....	Osborn, Leonard.....	October 5, 1837.....
A.....	Peak, Humphrey.....	
W.....	Penn, ———	
A.....	Powell, H. Brook.....	
A.....	Powell, William L.....	
A.....	1766..... Ramsay, William.....	
A.....	1793..... Ramsay, William.....	
W.....	Randall, Richard.....	April 19, 1829..... 33
W.....	Richards, John, Sr.....	1843..... 73
W.....	Richards, John.....	January 19, 1862..... 47
	Rivinus, Edward T.....	
W.....	Rodgers, William.....	
W.....	Roberts, John M.....	September 11, 1865....
	Roberts, John.....	
W.....	Rose, W. R.....	
W.....	Saunders, Wm. H.....	
W.....	Schwartz, Augustus I.....	
W.....	Scott, Thomas C.....	September 7, 1837..... 53
A.....	1820..... Sedgwick, ———	March 21, 1824..... 41
A.....	Semmes, Thomas.....	July 31, 1833..... 55
W.....	Sewall, Thomas.....	September 10, 1845.... 59
G.....	Shaaf, John T.....	April 30, 1819..... 56
W.....	Sim, Thomas.....	September 15, 1832.... 62
W.....	Sinnott, John D.....	
A.....	Smith, Sidney W.....	
G.....	1780..... Smith, Walter.....	
W.....	Smoot, Samuel C.....	September 29, 1866.... 48
G.....	Snyder, J. M.....	1863.....
G.....	Staughton, James M.....	August 7, 1833.....
W.....	Stettinius, John W II.....	July 20, 1863..... 37
G.....	Stewart, Augustus A.....	
A.....	Stewart, David.....	
A.....	Stewart, James.....	
W.....	Thomas, John M.....	December 28, 1834....
W.....	Thomas, J. M.....	1853.....
A.....	Thornton, Geo. B.....	December 1, 1818..... 31

	<i>Died.</i>	<i>Æt.</i>
A Thornton, John B	January 15, 1839	30
A Thornton, J. B. C.	1839	30
W Thornton, Wm.	March 27, 1828	
W Tongue, James		
. Torry, Samuel		
. Tyler, John W.		
A Vowel, John		
G Warfield, Peregrine	August 4, 1856	
W Washington, Bailey	August 4, 1854	67
A Washington, Charles		
A 1802 Washington, William		
W Watkins, Tobias	November 14, 1855	75
W Waugh, J. B.	1850	
. Wedderburn, A. J.	July 5, 1859	47
G 1780 Weems, John		
G 1810 Weems, N. T.		
W Weightman, Richard	October 29, 1841	
A Wheelwright, Joseph		
W Willis, John	April 1, 1811	
W Wilstaek, Chas. F.	July 1, 1860	66
G 1783 Worthington, Charles	September 10, 1836	75
G Worthington, N. W.	July 30, 1849	60
. Wotherspoon, Alex.	May 4, 1854	
W Young, A. N.		

Nearly one-half of the individuals named in this long list were members of this Society, either under its original or revived and amended charter. What mementoes of them has this Society preserved? In many instances we do not possess even the evidence of their membership, the book of records with their signatures being lost. But two portraits of deceased members grace and adorn the walls of our room, which, by their very loneliness, admonish us of the inexcusable neglect with which the memory of our departed members has been treated.

I am proud to say, however, that of late years there has been manifested a desire to elevate and dignify the membership of this Society among the living, and to honor it more in the notice taken of our deceased brethren.

For our Society to be efficient for good among its members, and respected and influential with the public, it must be conducted in a

broad and catholic spirit, and with such high and honorable aims as to enlist the hearty approval and co-operation of every member and well-wisher of the profession.

The benefits of the *Medical Society of the District of Columbia* to this community have never been fully appreciated by them, and perhaps not to the full extent it deserves by the members themselves. Individuals are to be found everywhere, both in and out of the medical profession, who seem unable to appreciate the value of any measure which promises no peculiar advantage to themselves. It is, therefore, not strange that such persons should be slow to admit that other individuals may be influenced by motives that transcend the limits of their own aims. Thus it happens that the most benevolent associations are occasionally looked upon as monopolies, and prejudice, if not hostility, aroused against the most valuable institutions from without, and jealousies and bickerings among the members within.

It is a mistake to suppose that the benefits of a medical association are limited, or chiefly important, to its members. The skill and proficiency of the medical profession is but a legacy held in trust for the use and benefit of the community. The interest of the public and the profession in this respect is almost identical. Each is benefited, but the public most, by whatever measure advances and disseminates a knowledge of the healing art, and the prevention of disease. It is true there is a peculiar obligation which every practitioner assumes toward the patient who seeks his advice and confides in his skill, for the faithful performance of which he alone is responsible. But there are other duties of a more public nature, which belong to the profession in its associate rather than in its individual capacity. With special reference to these this Society was originally constituted. The spirit of association is the most distinguishing feature in modern civilization, and is the secret of the success and rapid advance in all the arts and sciences of the present age.

If the progress of medical science has been more rapid during the nineteenth century than previously, it is mainly owing to the fact that

the medical profession, through its associations, has encouraged investigations and directed a more systematic course of study. It is only where the energies of men of science are concentrated with their fellow laborers in the same field that they are enabled to accomplish the most satisfactory results.

If medicine in the future is to advance along with other departments in science and literature, active, earnest co-operation and a free interchange of opinions among its members must be the means through which this desirable result will be achieved.

It is worthy of remark, that for the last three years the members of this Society have manifested the most lively interest in its success, with an increased desire for improvement, and have, as a general fact, exhibited a commendable readiness to read papers, report cases, and to take part in all measures that advance its interests and usefulness. The Society now holds weekly meetings, which are numerously attended; and it is of very rare occurrence that a well-prepared original paper is not read at each one of them, which usually elicits pleasant and profitable discussions. As a consequence of the frequency and profitable character of the meetings, the harmony and good fellowship existing among all its members is now more perfect than at any former period in its history.

The question of erecting a hall or building for the use of the Society was definitely and practically brought before this body, and a scheme for raising the funds to accomplish the purpose by its members submitted in an address delivered before you by your present speaker, December 20, 1865. A committee, consisting of three physicians, viz, Doctors *Toner*, *Lindsly*, and *Liebermann*, were subsequently appointed to consider and report upon the expediency and practicability of the measure. This committee have not as yet reported, but I am persuaded they entertain the opinion that a building owned by the Society is extremely desirable, and would secure the hearty approval of the profession. We know that there are members anxious and willing to subscribe to the stock necessary to its erection. So that

I feel not only hopeful, but confident, that this desirable object will soon be accomplished.

Next in point of interest to us on this occasion will be a brief notice of such institutions among us as are medical in their character, and depend entirely, or in a great measure, upon the profession for their usefulness and reputation.

First, of medical colleges, of which we have two. Every member of the profession has an interest in the success and reputation of medical colleges, not only in this city, but throughout the country, and particularly in their maintaining a high standard of education. The faculties of our medical colleges cannot, therefore, be matters of indifference to us. In one sense they are our representatives, and in another our auxiliaries. Whatever affects their reputation must react upon us, and, indeed, upon the whole profession. The organization of these colleges is perhaps as complete as could reasonably be expected, and their facilities for teaching the science of medicine and surgery equal to any in the country, save those which have the advantage of very extensive hospitals where students can study a greater variety of diseases at the bedside. Clinical lectures are delivered to the students of both colleges at each of our hospitals, which of late years have been filled with interesting cases.

It is not uncommon to hear physicians and others railing against medical colleges, and the amount and quality of the instruction given, and the indifferently informed and unskilful physician pointed to as a sort of eyesore to the profession, or pest inflicted upon the community by them. The fact is, the profession at large is in a great measure responsible for the character and mental capacity of those who study medicine. It is impossible for medical colleges to make efficient and skilful physicians out of some of the indifferently educated and obtuse material that is sent to them from the offices of busy and successful practitioners. Therefore I say that, in a great measure, the responsibility and means for elevating the character and standing of the profession rests with the general practitioners, to whom young men apply

to be received as students. We should have the honor and dignity of the profession and the good of the community so much at heart as not to hesitate to dissuade the young man of limited natural capacity, and perhaps even more deficient education, from commencing the study of medicine. But, on the whole, the medical profession has great reason to be proud of the eminent talent and learning which occupy or yearly enter its ranks, and of the almost unimpeachable integrity and efficiency of its members as a body.

The *Medical Department of Columbian College*, the first medical school established in the District, was completely organized and lectures commenced, in a building, No. 447 Tenth street, on the 30th March, 1825. On that occasion an able introductory lecture, reviewing the history of medical colleges in the *United States*, was delivered by Dr. *Thomas Sewall*. The third course of lectures was delivered in a new building on the corner of Tenth and E streets. Lectures continued to be delivered in this institution to very respectable classes until 1834, when from some cause they were suspended for a few years.

The faculty was reorganized, and lectures commenced under an able corps of teachers on the first Monday in November, 1839, in the building corner of Tenth and E streets, where the usual annual course was given until the season of 1844-'45, when the college was removed to the *Washington Infirmary*. In 1847 the facilities for teaching were greatly increased by the successful establishment of the *Washington Infirmary* in conjunction with the college, and by the many appliances added for demonstrations in the lecture room. From that period the *Medical Department of Columbian College* has been styled the "*National Medical College*." Lectures were annually delivered to good classes in this building, until it was taken possession of by the Government for a military hospital, in April, 1861. The faculty then removed to a building, formerly the "*Union*" *Printing Office*, on E street, between Eleventh and Twelfth, where lectures were continued for some time.

Owing to the political distractions of the country, and the derangement of the ordinary pursuits and studies, lectures were suspended during the years of 1863-'64 and 1864-'65. But in the fall of 1865 the Medical Faculty removed to the *Law Building of Columbian College*, on Fifth street, where they have since lectured to good classes. Recently, by the munificent liberality of W. W. Corcoran, the *Trustees of Columbian College* have been given the elegant and commodious building on H street, near Fourteenth, for the use of the *Faculty of the National Medical College*, where medical lectures will hereafter be regularly delivered.

The following is a list of all the professors who have held chairs in the *National Medical College*, with the date of their appointment, resignation, &c., from its organization to the present time :

*Appointed.**Resigned.*

1821....Thomas Sewall, M. D.....	Anatomy and Physiology.....	1839
1821....Jas. M. Stoughton, M. D.....	Chemistry, Geology, and Surgery.....	1830
1822....Elijah Craven, M. D.....	Botany.....	deceased 1823
1824....Thos. Henderson, M. D.....	Theory and Practice.....	1833
1824....N. W. Worthington, M. D....	Materia Medica.....	1839
1824....Alex. McWilliams, M. D.....	Botany.....	deceased 1850
1825....Edward Cutbush, M. D.....	Chemistry.....	1827
1825....Frederick May, M. D.....	Obstetrics.....	1839
1827....Richard Randall, M. D.	Chem., Inst. Med., and Med. Jurisp.....	1828
1828....Thomas P. Jones, M. D.....	Chemistry.....	1838
1839....James C. Hall, M. D.....	Surgery.....	1837
1839....Thos. Sewall, M. D.....	Pathology, Theory & Practice..	deceased 1845
1839....Thomas P. Jones, M. D.....	Chemistry and Pharmaey.....	1840
1839....Harvey Lindsly, M. D.	Obstetrics and Dis. of Women & Children	1845
1839....John F. May, M. D.....	Anatomy and Physiology.....	1841
1839....John M. Thomas, M. D.....	Materia Medica and Therapeutics.....	1844
1839....Thomas Miller, M. D.....	Principles and Practice of Surgery.....	1841
1840....Frederick Hall, M. D.....	Chemistry.....	deceased 1843
1841....John F. May, M. D.....	Principles and Practice of Surgery.....	1842
1841....Thomas Miller, M. D.....	Anatomy and Physiology.....	1851
1842....Wm. P. Johnston, M. D.....	Surgery.....	1845
1843....Benj. Hallowell.....	Chemistry.....	1844
1844....Charles F. Page, M. D.	Chemistry.....	1849
1844....John M. Thomas, M. D.....	Physiology and Med. Jurisp.....	1849
1844....Joshua Riley, M. D.....	Materia Medica and Therapeutics.....	1859
1845....Harvey Lindsly, M. D.....	Practice.....	1846
1845....William P. Johnston, M. D....	Obstetrics.....	1859
1845....John F. May, M. D.....	Surgery.....	1858
1846....Grafton Tyler, M. D.....	Practice.....	1859
1847....Leonard D. Gale, M. D.....	Associate Prof. Chemistry.....	1849
1848....Robert K. Stone, M. D.....	Adjunct Prof. Anatomy.....	1854
1849....E. Foreman, M. D.....	Chemistry.....	1853
1850....R. K. Stone, M. D.....	Physiology and Med. Jurisp.....	1854
1853....Lewis H. Steiner, M. D.....	Chemistry.....	1857

<i>Appointed.</i>		<i>Resigned.</i>
1854....	James J. Waring, M. D.....Physiological and Micros. Anat.....	1859
1857....	Eugene W. Hilgard, M. D....Chemistry	1858
1858....	Henry Wartz.....Chemistry	1860
1858....	John G. F. Holston, M. D....Surgery.....	Vacated 1861
1858....	Robt. K. Stone, M. D.....Ophth. Med. and Surg.....	1859
1859....	Thomas Miller, M. D.....Emeritus Prof. Anat. and Phys.....	
1859....	R. K. Stone, M. D.....Anatomy.....	1859
1859....	John C. Riley, M. D.....Materia Med. and Therap.....	
1859....	N. S. Lincoln, M. D.....Practice.....	1860
1859....	W. P. Johnston, M. D.....	{ Em. Prof. Obst. and Dis. of Women and Children.....
1859....	J. J. Waring, M. D.....	
		{ Obstet. and Dis. of Women and Child- ren.....
1860....	R. K. Stone, M. D.....Practice, Surgery, and Clin. Surgery.....	Vacated 1861
1860....	L. C. Schaeffer, M. D.....Chemistry	1860
1860....	A. Y. P. Garnett, M. D.....Prof. of Clinical Med.....	Vacated 1861
1860....	N. S. Lincoln, M. D.....Anatomy and Physiology.....	1861
1860....	G. M. Dove, M. D.....Practice.....	
1861....	N. S. Lincoln, M. D.....Surgery.....	
1861....	John B. Keasby, M. D.....Obstetrics and Dis. of Women.....	
— 1862....	J. H. Warren, M. D.....Anatomy.....	1863
1863....	John A. Liddell, M. D.....Anatomy.....	1866
1863....	John Ordronaux, M. D.....Med. Jurisp. and Hygiene.....	
1865....	Thos. R. Crosby, M. D.....Military Surgery.....	
1866....	J. Ford Thompson, M. D.....Anatomy and Physiology.....	

The *Medical Department of Georgetown College* was organized with a corps of five distinguished professors, and commenced its first course of lectures to an encouraging class of medical students in the fall and winter of 1850-'51. From that period to the present time a regular course of lectures has been annually delivered in their college, on F street, near Twelfth, to increasing classes, and with augmented reputation. The institution may now be considered as well established.

The following is a list of the professors and the chairs they have filled, with the dates of their appointment, resignation, &c.:

<i>Appointed.</i>	<i>Resigned.</i>
1849....Noble Young, M. D.....Princ. and Prac. of Med	
1849....Flodoardo Howard.....Obstet. and Dis. of Women & Children..	1857
1849....Johnson Eliot, M. D.....Anatomy.....	1861
1849....Chas. H. Liebermann, M. D.....Princ. and Prac. of Surgery.....	1853
1849....Joshua A. Ritchie, M. D.....Physiol. and Med. Jurisp.....	1853
1849....Samuel W. Everett, M. D.....Associate Prof. of Anatomy.....	1852
1850....J. B. Waugh, M. D.....Mat. Med. and Therapeutics...Deceased	1850
1851....A. M. Austin, M. D.....Mat. Med. and Therapeutics	1852
1851....James W. H. Lovejoy.....Chemistry.....	1854
1852....James E. Morgan, M. D.....Physiol. and Med. Jurisp.....	1858
1853....Samuel C. Bussey, M. D.....Mat. Med. and Therapeutics.....	1854
1853....J. M. Snyder, M. D.....Surgery.....	1857
1854....B. F. Craig, M. D.....Chemistry.....	1858
1855....George C. Schaffor, M. D.....Mat. Med. and Therapeutics.....	1855

1857....	J. M. Snyder, M. D.....	Obstetrics.....	Deceased 1863
1857....	Flodoardo Howard, M. D.....	Emeritus Prof. of Obstetrics.....	
1857....	C. H. Lieberman, M. D.....	Surgery.....	1861
1858....	Thomas Antisell, M. D.....	Chemistry.....	1863
1858....	Jas E. Morgan, D.....	Mat. Med. and Therapeutics.....	
1861....	Johnson Eliot, M. D.....	Surgery.....	
1861....	Montgomery Johns, M. D.....	Anatomy.....	
1863....	Thomas Antisell, M. D.....	Military Surg., Phys. and Hygiene.....	
1863....	Silas L. Loomis, M. D.....	Chemistry.....	
1863....	Flodoardo Howard, M. D.....	Obstetrics.....	
1865....	Daniel K. Hagner, M. D.....	Clinical Medicine.....	

There are many members of this Society, present with us to-night, justly distinguished for their ability, who have received their doctorates from one or other of these Colleges.

There have been some individual efforts in the teaching of particular branches of the science of medicine by physicians in *Washington* that are worthy of being noticed. The first of this character was by Dr. *J. C. Hall*, who, in 1828, opened a private dissecting room in the same square in which *Brown's Hotel* is situated. His efforts were so well patronized that he continued the course for some years to good classes, and until he was elected professor of surgery in *Columbian College*.

In 1830 *Thomas Sewall*, *Harvey Lindsly*, and *Benjamin F. Nourse* associated themselves together to give a summer course of lectures to medical students who might desire to avail themselves of the opportunity.

In 1831 the *Washington Medical Institute* was established to give a full summer course of instruction to medical students who might resort to the city to study medicine. It was designed by this means to place *Washington* upon an equal footing, as to medical instruction, with the eastern cities. The professors were Doctors *Henderson*, *Hall*, *Miller*, *Stanford*, *Nourse*, *Borrows*, and *Brereton*.

In 1834 Dr. *Thomas Miller* advertised to give a private course of instruction to medical students on the subject of anatomy; and in 1835 Dr. *Harvey Lindsly* announced that he would give a course of lectures, to such students as might desire to attend, on obstetrics and diseases of women and children.

October 20, 1819, the following physicians announced themselves,

by public advertisement, as willing to attend alternately every evening about five o'clock, at the room adjoining the apothecary shop of *Jesse Ewell*, to prescribe gratuitously for all who might apply for medical assistance: *Thomas Sim*, *Henry Hunt*, *N. P. Causin*, *Bailey Washington*, and *Thomas Ewell*. This is the first, and, as far as I am aware, the only attempt ever made to establish a dispensary in *Washington City*.

When this Society was formed, and for many years after, there were no hospitals in *Washington City* for the accommodation of the public, other than the *Poor House*. That institution was established by a law of the Corporation passed October 31, 1806. Two thousand dollars was then appropriated to buy a lot anywhere in the city between Third and Ninth streets, and F street north and the boundary, and to erect suitable buildings, which, in the language of the law, was "the more effectually to provide for the poor, disabled, and infirm persons." It was denominated the "*Washington Infirmary*." This institution, as most of the older physicians know, was situated on the square between M and N and Sixth and Seventh streets, but was generally known by the name of the "*Poor House*." It was continued until about 1846, when the *Washington Asylum* was completed, upon a site given by the General Government for that purpose in 1843, in the eastern part of the city.

The want of a hospital was early and severely felt by the people of the District who saw the Infirmary in part diverted from its legitimate purpose to meet this necessity, and a specific plan for a general hospital,* with a scheme for raising the necessary funds for its estab-

* "PROPOSED HOSPITAL.—*To the Editors*—Gentlemen: Annexed are the outlines of the institution proposed. It appears to me to be on the fairest principles; so that it cannot be shackled with those innumbrances which so often defeat the main objects of charitable institutions—I mean tedious forms for those requiring relief, and having to curry favor with those granting admission. It is presumed that the corporations of *Georgetown* and *Washington* will vote supplies annually equal to their respective population; nor can there be a doubt that the many who will contribute will have no other wish than that their money may be judiciously laid out in relieving some poor fellow beings unable to relieve themselves. The last remark I have to make is that the population of

lishment and support, was submitted to the public through a circular letter published and distributed by Dr. *Thomas Ewell*, one of the leading practitioners of the city. A copy of this circular, with a descriptive plan of the proposed institution and suggestions as to its location and management, may be seen in the *National Intelligencer* of September 2, 1820.

the corporations separately cannot support a hospital, but jointly it can be done by the twenty thousand inhabitants. It will be remarked that the establishment is not to relieve the old and infirm not wanting medical assistance, but the sick who would injure and be injured by blending thus together.

“Respectfully yours,

“THOMAS EWELL.”

“*Columbia Hospital*.—Outlines of an institution designed in the least expensive and most expeditious way :

“1st. To relieve the poor who are sick and have no accommodations at home.

“2d. To administer medicine to those requiring and unable to pay for them, at their houses.

“3d. To promote medical science by making the practice public, so as to lessen the impositions of pretenders to great skill among the unknowing part of society.

“*Article 1*. The board of management of the institution, governing exclusively, except in the medical department, to consist of all the clergymen and all the members of the corporations of *Washington* and *Georgetown*, to meet and regulate as they shall by a majority determine.

“*Article 2*. The medical department to be exclusively under the direction of the regularly qualified physicians of the two corporations, restricted to the republican rule of letting each in succession share in the duties of the hospital and the practice as dispensary physicians, every physician having the right to witness the practice of each other at the hours of prescription.

“*Article 3*. All persons connected with the corporation, and all contributors, shall have the right of sending such patients to the hospital as they may deem worthy objects, excepting that the owners of slaves shall pay as much as the cost of their accommodation.

“*Article 4*. The hospital to be seated conveniently to *Georgetown* and *Washington*, to consist of small buildings of the plainest kind, detached from each other to prevent the propagation of infectious diseases, and maniacs from being made more mad by hearing each other's cries ; each house not to contain more than six or eight persons, except a centre building for the resident officers, an apothecary shop, and a room for teaching women the duties they should perform to each other in child-bed, or for other purposes of lecturing.”—*National Intelligencer*, September 6, 1820.

The measure met the hearty approval of the editors of that influential journal, who ventured to suggest certain modifications in the plan, and particularly urged that the corporations of *Washington* and *Georgetown* unite in its establishment, and support it on a firm basis. In several able editorials they urged the necessity and practicability of the enterprise, and stated that it was within their own knowledge that one gentleman would give \$1,000 if the project was carried into practical operation. For some cause, probably the want of money and harmonious co-operation, this benevolent enterprise was dropped.

MILITARY HOSPITALS IN WASHINGTON DURING THE WAR OF 1812.—

It seems probable, from the best information I can obtain, that there were at least two hospitals organized by the army in *Washington* during the last war with *Great Britain*. Dr. *William Jones*, a surgeon in the army at that time, and on duty in *Washington*, writes me that "there was but one military hospital in *Washington* during the war of 1812, which was situated on *Greenleaf's Point*, in the old brick buildings on P street south, fronting the *Arsenal* grounds, and still in good state of repair."

There is, however, a conviction in the minds of many persons contemporary with that period, that the old brick house still standing back from the street, on the corner of Vermont avenue and H street, was used during the war as a hospital. Others believe that a temporary hospital was opened on *Capitol Hill* after the battle of *Bladensburg*; but I am unable to verify the statement, or to fix upon the exact situation.

During the cholera of 1832 there were three temporary hospitals established in the city—one in the First Ward, another in the central part, and the third near the *Navy Yard*. These were known by the names of the Western, the Central, and the Eastern. The medical staff of the different hospitals was appointed by the Board of Health, August 7, 1832.

The *Western Hospital* was opened in a brick double house, belonging to *Alexander Clements*, situated on the south side of M street north, between Eighteenth and Nineteenth. The building is still standing,

and in a good state of preservation. The attending physicians were Doctors *N. W. Waters* and *R. Brisco*. Dr. *W. B. Magruder* subsequently took the place of Dr. *Brisco*. The consulting physicians were Doctors *Thomas Sim*, *J. M. Thomas*, and *Richmond Johnson*.

The *Central Hospital* was opened at No. 447 Tenth street, but was subsequently removed to a house on the corner of Eleventh street and Pennsylvania avenue, owned by *W. J. Stone, Esq.*, father of Dr. *R. K. Stone*, and proffered by him for the purpose of a hospital, as long as the occasion required. The attending physicians at this establishment were Doctors *A. McD. Davis*, *T. R. Miller*, *James Waring*, and *B. Miller*. Consulting physicians, Doctors *Henry Hunt*, *N. P. Causin*, and *Thomas Sewall*. Dr. *Joseph Borrows* was subsequently appointed one of the attending physicians.

The *Eastern Hospital* was in a house now owned by Mr. *Clark*, and is situated on the west side of Fourteenth street east, between K street and Georgia avenue. The attending physicians were Doctors *Noble Young* and *T. J. Boyd*. The latter resigned September 3d, and Dr. *R. T. Barry* was appointed in his place. The consulting physicians were Doctors *Frederick May* and *Alexander McWilliams*.

In *Georgetown* there was one cholera hospital during the epidemic of 1832. The building occupied for that purpose was a three-story hotel, situated on the west side of High street, between Bridge and Water streets. The physicians in charge were Doctors *Charles H. Laub*, *N. W. Worthington*, *B. S. Bohrer*, and *Joshua Riley*. The two latter were consulting physicians.

In *Alexandria, Virginia*, the epidemic was also so severe as to make it a necessity for the corporate authorities to establish a hospital for the care and treatment of the poor and destitute. The building used there was a three-story house, situated on the northeast corner of Fairfax and Gibbon streets. It is still standing, and belongs to the heirs of Mr. *Tucker*. *Robert C. Grymes* was one of the physicians in charge.

Just after the subsidence of the cholera, at the suggestion of the Board of Health, several public meetings were held, with a view to

encourage the establishment of a general and permanent hospital in the city. At one of these meetings a committee was appointed to select a proper site for such an institution. After viewing all the available squares, they recommended two, but preferred that known as the "*Church Reservation*," upon which the *Patent Office* now stands. The project was, however, too expensive for individual efforts, and, as it was not encouraged and patronized by *Congress* or the Corporation, the project for the time fell through. The Board of Health continued in 1832-'33-'34-'35-'36, and '37 to appoint a committee to memorialize Congress to obtain an appropriation to establish in our city a public hospital.

On the 29th of August, 1842, Congress passed a law appropriating \$10,000, and authorizing the old *Jail*, on *Judiciary Square*, to be altered and fitted up for an insane asylum. But in 1844, when the alterations had been completed, it was decided by Congress not to be a proper place for an institution of that kind. At this juncture the *Medical Faculty of Columbian College* applied to Congress for the use of the building for an infirmary, and for other purposes.

On the 15th June, 1844, a law, from which the following is an extract, was passed by Congress, and received the approval of the President of the *United States* :

"That the Commissioner of Public Buildings be directed to allow the *Medical Faculty of Columbian College, District of Columbia*, to occupy the insane hospital, with the adjoining grounds, situated in the *Judiciary Square*, in *Washington*, for the purpose of an infirmary, for medical instruction, and for scientific purposes, on condition that they shall give satisfactory security to keep the said building in repair, and return it with the grounds, to the Government, in as good condition as they are now in, whenever required to do so."

The Faculty of the College met *William Noland*, Commissioner of Public Buildings, Friday, June 20, 1844, and jointly signed the lease and a bond of \$10,000 as a guarantee that they would faithfully comply with the requirements of the law and the conditions of the lease. The professors of the Medical Department of the College, as then constituted, all signed the bond, and in the following order: *Thomas Sewall, Harvey Lindsly, Thomas Miller, John M. Thomas, William P. Johnston, Charles G. Page*,

These gentlemen deserve the lasting gratitude of this community, and the highest respect and admiration of their professional brethren, for the tact, energy, and enterprise displayed in establishing the *Washington Infirmary*. Although the building was given free of rent, the faculty were at very considerable expense in furnishing the building and making the necessary improvements and alterations.

The first patients were received into this institution about the middle of July, 1844. And thus was opened, upon the most liberal terms* to the public, the first general hospital in *Washington City*.

The institution was well sustained by the public, and in a short time Congress, upon the petition of the faculty and influential citizens, made a yearly appropriation of, at first, \$2,000, then \$3,000, and finally raised to \$6,000, for care and medical treatment of the transient paupers of the District. The growing popularity of the institution with strangers, mechanics, and laborers, with the rapidly-increasing population of the District, in a few years made a demand upon the Infirmary exceeding its capacity for accommodation. Consequently it became necessary to devise means to enlarge it. Therefore, in 1852, Doctors *Thomas Miller*, *Grafton Tyler*, *William P. Johnston*, *J. F. May*, and *R. K. Stone* petitioned Congress for aid to accomplish this desirable object.

Hon. *Edward Stanly*, of *North Carolina*, member of the House of Representatives, in Committee of the Whole, on the 17th February, 1853, brought forward this matter, and moved an amendment to the general appropriation bill, "To aid the directors of the *Washington Infirmary* to enlarge the accommodations for the benefit of the sick

* June 27, 1844, the Faculty, in advertising their winter course of lectures, appended the following paragraph relative to the infirmary:

"The infirmary will be opened as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made. The accommodations are sufficiently extensive for a large number of patients. Patients from the city or country will be admitted upon paying a very small sum to the steward for board. The medical attendance of the faculty will be furnished gratuitously. Clinical lectures will be given daily. The poor of the city who apply daily between the hours of 9 and 10 a. m. will receive advice and medicine without charge, the same as during last winter.

"W. P. JOHNSTON, *Dean*."

and the treatment of paupers, \$20,000;" which was agreed to. It passed the House finally on the 21st February, 1853, by a vote of 105 to 75.

Through the liberal aid obtained from Congress, the capacity of the Infirmary building to accommodate patients was more than doubled. A commodious lecture room in the building was at the same time fitted up for the use of the College.

The internal and domestic management of the Infirmary was, after a short time, put under the direction of those excellent and humane nurses, the Sisters of Mercy. The institution was conducted with liberality to the poor, enlightened judgment, and professional ability, and was of incalculable usefulness in the relief of suffering, by the accommodation it afforded to strangers and others compelled to resort to such an establishment. Its central position and large, airy rooms, with the assiduous attention given to patients by physicians and nurses, made it popular with the public and the profession. The exigencies of the war made its accommodation essential to the comfort of the sick soldiers in the city, so that it was given up solely to the use of the army in 1861. Its destruction by fire while under their control was a great calamity to the army, as well as to the poor of the city.

GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE.

This admirable institution was built in pursuance of a law of Congress passed in 1852, which appropriated \$100,000, and directed the Secretary of the Interior to select and purchase an eligible site within the *District of Columbia* and erect thereon suitable buildings for the accommodation of the insane of the District and of the army and navy of the United States. The same year \$19,000 was appropriated to support this class of patients from the District in asylums in other cities. After carefully examining and considering the advantages and disadvantages of all the available points, a beautiful and commodious site, about two miles south of the *Capitol*, overlooking the whole city, was selected. Here a large and imposing structure, combining all the modern improvements known to such establishments, has been erected,

under the immediate direction of the superintendent, Dr. *Charles H. Nichols*. In it are at this time about three hundred patients of all classes under treatment. It is considered, and I believe justly, by competent judges to be the model institution of its kind in the United States.

PROVIDENCE HOSPITAL.

This institution was established in the spring of 1861, by the Sisters of Charity, aided by a few friends. A sudden and pressing necessity for a public hospital was created by the Government taking possession of the Infirmary, and converting it into a military hospital. Perceiving the urgent want, your speaker was the mover in measures which led to the establishment of *Providence Hospital*. The Sisters of Charity in charge of *St. Vincent's Orphan Asylum*, to which he was physician, were made fully acquainted with the necessities for such an institution, and after a short consultation with their superiors and recognizing the need, consented to open a hospital at once, in case a suitable building could be had. The *Nicholson House*, tolerably well calculated for the purpose, situated in the centre of a square east of "*Dudington*,"—the *Carroll* mansion, was rented and speedily fitted up and occupied as a hospital. It was opened on the most liberal conditions* to the public and the profession, each physician in the city enjoying an "equality of privileges" in the institution.

* The following is a copy of the first public announcement made by those in charge of the Hospital, in 1866 :

"WASHINGTON PROVIDENCE HOSPITAL,
"Second Street East, Capitol Hill, Washington, D. C.

"This institution, which is under the control and direction of the Sisters of Charity, is now open to the public.

"All persons suffering from casualties or non-contagious diseases will be admitted.

"The Buildings are spacious, and, with the alterations recently made, well adapted to Hospital purposes.

"The location is elevated and salubrious, the grounds are extensive and well shaded, affording ample facilities for air and exercise.

"Providence Hospital is admirably suited to patients wishing to avail themselves of the advantages of an Hospital, and yet enjoy the comforts and quiet of home.

It was well patronized from the first. The exigencies of the war, and the burning of the *City Infirmary*, and the abandonment of its organization, made such an institution a necessity to the city, and encouraged its friends to obtain a charter from the present Congress, which, in its liberality, also granted it an appropriation of \$30,000. The present administration have now a large and commodious building in course of construction upon a site purchased for the purpose, on Second street east, bounded by E and F streets south. The institution continues to be popular and prosperous, and is at this time receiving \$12,000 a year from Congress, to provide hospital accommodations for the transient paupers of the *District of Columbia*.

There is but one other institution of this class to be noticed, which is the *Columbia Hospital for Women and Lying-in Asylum*. This benevolent institution, situated on the corner of Massachusetts avenue and Fourteenth street, was established early in 1866. Its purpose so commended itself to the public that liberal subscriptions were obtained from our citizens, and an appropriation of ten thousand dollars from Congress, which, it is expected, will be yearly granted for the support of the institution. Its encouragement has more than equalled the hopes of its projectors. An act of Congress incorporating it became a law on the 1st of June, 1866, so that it may now be considered an established institution, of which the city may well feel proud.

A Naval Hospital, or Infirmary, for the exclusive use of the navy and the marines stationed at the Washington Navy Yard, has been maintained there ever since the General Government was removed to

“TERMS PER WEEK.

“Private rooms, from \$7 to \$10, according to the nature of the disease and the attendance required.

“General wards, \$4.

“Dr. J. M. Toner is the Attending Physician and Surgeon of the house, but all the Physicians in the District will have an equality of privilege in the Institution; consequently, any Physician who may send a patient to the hospital can attend the same, if he wishes to do so.

“Application can be made at the hospital, or to Dr. J. M. Toner.”

the city. A new building, of large proportions and beautiful exterior, has just been completed, with all the latest internal improvements in ventilation, heating, sinks, sewerage, &c., known to such institutions, upon a square of ground (No. 948 on the city plat) fronting on Pennsylvania avenue, and bounded by Ninth and Tenth streets east. This hospital is understood to be for the accommodation of all commissioned officers of the navy, and for United States seamen and marines in this section who require hospital treatment.

The military struggle, from which our country has just emerged, was so suddenly begun, and so obstinately contested, that its magnitude created at various strategic points a necessity for extensive general military hospitals. I think it proper, therefore, to make some mention of those established in the District. Our city being the seat of Government, and the great camp of reserved forces and supplies, as well as the point of attack by the enemy, with the severe battles fought in the neighborhood, made it necessary to have large hospital accommodations here. Although very extensive preparations were made, yet on several occasions the operations of the war suddenly threw such vast numbers of wounded and sick upon the hospitals at this point as to greatly exceed their capacity, and made it incumbent upon the medical officers to provide extra accommodations, which was done by taking temporarily churches and other buildings.

The following is believed to be a complete list of all the hospitals established and buildings used as such within the *District of Columbia*, or "*Ten Miles Square*," for the accommodation of sick and wounded soldiers during the Southern Rebellion. I have given, for the benefit of the future historian, the name and exact location of each hospital and building used as such. For the dates of opening and closing hospitals I am indebted to the Surgeon General of the United States army:

- Armory Square*, Washington, D. C.—Consisted of eight long, one-story frame buildings, erected on purpose, ends fronting on Seventh street, between the Canal and D street south. Opened August, 1862; closed September 11, 1865. Buildings retained by Quartermaster's Department as store-houses.
- Bayne, George*.—Private residence, Alexandria, Va., corner of King and Water streets. Branch of first division United States General Hospital.
- Bellhaven Female Institute*, Alexandria, Va.—Corner of Queen and St. Asaph streets. Branch of third division United States General Hospital.
- Beverly, Mrs.*—Private residence, Alexandria, Va., Washington street, between Oronoco and Princess streets.
- Building*—Used as a hospital, Alexandria, Va., on Cameron, near corner of Water street. (Owner's name not ascertained.)
- Campbell*, Washington county, D. C.—Frame buildings erected on purpose, on ground just outside of city limits, at north end of Sixth street. Opened December, 1862; closed July 22, 1865. (Buildings transferred to General Howard, who had a Freedmen's Hospital opened.)
- Capitol of the United States*, Washington, D. C.—Hospital opened in September, 1862; closed November, 1862.
- Carver*, Washington county, D. C.—Frame buildings erected on a site adjacent to and north of Columbian College, on the Fourteenth street road. Opened July, 1862; closed 16th August, 1865.
- Casparis Hotel*, Washington, D. C.—Situated on south A street, between New Jersey avenue and First street east. Opened July, 1862; closed 26th February, 1863.
- Church, Ascension*, (Episcopal,) Washington, D. C.—Situated on north H street, between Ninth and Tenth streets. Opened July, 1862; closed 2d March, 1863.
- Church, Baptist*, Alexandria, Va.—On Washington street, between Prince and Duke. Branch of second division United States General Hospital.
- Church, Dunbarton Street*, (Methodist Episcopal,) Georgetown, D. C.—On Dunbarton street, between Congress and High. Opened October, 1862; closed 8th January, 1863.
- Church, E Street Baptist*, Washington, D. C.—On E street north, between Sixth and Seventh streets west. Opened July 1862; closed 26th December, 1862.
- Church, Ebenezer*, (Methodist Episcopal,) Washington, D. C.—On Fourth street east, between South Carolina avenue and D street south. Opened July, 1862; closed 26th December, 1862.
- Church, Epiphany*, (Episcopal,) Washington, D. C.—On G street north, between Thirteenth and Fourteenth streets west. Opened July, 1862; closed 11th January, 1863.

- Church, Fourth Presbyterian*, Washington, D. C.—On Ninth street west, between G and H streets north. Opened July, 1862; closed 2d March, 1863.
- Church, Grace*, (Episcopal,) Alexandria, Va.—On Patrick street, between Prince and Duke streets. Branch of second division, and afterwards continued and known as L'Ouverture General Hospital, for Colored People.
- Church, Grace*, (Episcopal,) Washington, D. C.—On D street, south, between Eighth and Ninth streets west. Opened July, 1862; closed January, 1863.
- Church or Meeting House of the Society of Friends*, Alexandria, Va.—On corner of St. Asaph and Wolfe streets.
- Church, Methodist Episcopal South*, Alexandria, Va.—On Washington street, between King and Prince. Branch of second division United States General Hospital.
- Church, Presbyterian*, Georgetown, D. C.—On Bridge street, between Washington and Green, south side. Opened September, 1862; closed 29th December, 1862.
- Church, Ryland Chapel*, (Methodist Episcopal,) Washington, D. C.—On southeast corner of D street south and Tenth street west. Opened July, 1862; closed January, 1863.
- Church, Second Presbyterian*, Alexandria, Va.—On corner of St. Asaph and Prince streets.
- Church, St. Paul's*, (Episcopal,) Alexandria, Va.—Corner of Duke and Pitt streets. Branch of first division United States General Hospital, Alexandria.
- Church, Trinity*, (Episcopal,) Washington, D. C.—Corner of C street north, and Third west. Opened July, 1862; closed April 1863.
- Church, Trinity*, (Catholic,) Georgetown, D. C.—On Langan, between First and Second streets. Opened October, 1862; closed January 12, 1863.
- Church, Thirteenth Street Baptist*, Washington, D. C.—On east side of Thirteenth street west, between G and H north. Opened and closed with Epiphany, on G street.
- Church, Unitarian*, Washington, D. C.; also known by the name of Crane Hospital.—On corner of Sixth street west, and D street north. Opened July, 1862; closed December 26, 1862.
- Church, Union Chapel*, (Methodist Episcopal,) Washington, D. C.—On Twentieth street west, between Pennsylvania avenue and H street north. Opened July, 1862; closed December, 1862.
- Cliffburn*, (Mrs. Hobbie's residence,) Washington county, D. C.—Situated about one mile beyond the city boundary, from northern terminus of Twentieth street west. Large buildings and tents erected on the

grounds to increase accommodation, in addition to the mansion. Opened April, 1862; closed December, 1862.

College, Columbian, Washington county, D. C.—Situated on the Heights, just north of the Corporation limits, with tents and temporary buildings erected on grounds, on the Fourteenth street road. Opened July, 1861; closed July 10, 1865.

College, Georgetown, (Catholic,) Georgetown, D. C.—Situated on the Heights, overlooking Washington and the Potomac river. Opened in September, 1862; closed February 1, 1863.

Commissary Hospital, Alexandria, Va.—In a house on Prince street, between Union and Water.

Dangerfield, Mrs. Edward, (private residence,) Alexandria, Va.—Corner of Wolfe and Pitt streets. Branch of first division United States General Hospital.

Desmares, (residence of Charles Hill, sr.,) on the corner of Massachusetts avenue and Fourteenth street. Enclosed with the house is a half square of ground, upon which additional frame buildings were erected. Opened March, 1863; closed December 2, 1865. (This building is now used as the "Columbia Hospital for Women and Lying-in Asylum.")

Douglas, (private residence of the late Stephen A.,) Washington, D. C.—Including two adjoining dwelling-houses and temporary frame buildings, erected on the remainder of the square bounded by New Jersey avenue and Third street north and I and K streets west. Opened January, 1862; closed December 11, 1865.

Dwelling-house, No. 461 E street north, between Fifth and Sixth streets west. Occupied after the burning of the Washington Infirmary, and until the Douglas Hospital was opened.

Eckington, (private residence of the late Joseph Gales,) situated about half a mile beyond the city limits, opposite the northwestern terminus of New York avenue.—Temporary buildings and tents were erected here to increase hospital accommodations. Opened January, 1862; closed April 3, 1863.

Emory Hospital, Washington, D. C.—Frame buildings erected on purpose, covering the squares bounded by Seventeenth and Nineteenth streets east, and B and D streets south. Opened August, 1862; closed July 22, 1865.

English, Miss L. S.—Female Seminary, Georgetown, D. C. Situated on the northeast corner of Gay and Washington streets. Opened July, 1861; closed July 18, 1865.

Female Boarding School, Alexandria, Va.—On Washington street, between Green and Cameron. Branch third division United States General Hospital.

- Finley*, Washington county, D. C.—Buildings erected on purpose at Kendall Green, just outside of the city limits, opposite northern terminus of Fourth street east. Opened July, 1862 ; closed August, 1865.
- Forde*, W. H.—Private residence, Alexandria, Va. On Prince, between Columbus and Alford streets. Branch of second division United States General Hospital.
- Hallowell*, B.—Private residence, Alexandria, Va. On Washington street, between Green and Cameron. Branch of third division United States General Hospital.
- Hallowell*, James S.—Female Seminary, Alexandria, Va. On Fairfax, between Cameron and Green streets. Branch of first division United States General Hospital.
- Harewood*, Washington county, D. C.—On the farm of W. W. Coreoran, about one mile and a half directly north of city limits. Extensive frame buildings erected on purpose for hospitals. Opened September, 1862 : closed May 24, 1865.
- Island Hall*, Washington, D. C.—Corner of D street south and Sixth street west. Opened July, 1862 ; closed March, 1863.
- Jewish Synagogue*, Washington, D. C.—On the west side of Eighth street west, between H and I north. Opened July, 1862 ; closed March, 1863.
- Johnson*, Rev. J. T.—Private residence, Alexandria, Va. On Prince, between Columbus and Alford streets. Branch of second division United States General Hospital.
- Judiciary Square*, Washington, D. C.—Commodious frame buildings erected on this square after the burning of the Washington Infirmary. Opened April, 1862 ; closed July 8, 1865.
- Kalorama*, Washington county, D. C.—Hospital for eruptive diseases. The private residence of General Bomford, and once the residence of Joel Barlow and his friend Robert Fulton, pleasantly situated on an elevated site just outside the city limits, opposite the northern terminus of Twenty-first street west. Opened early in the war, and still continued.
- Lincoln Hospital*, Washington, D. C.—Extensive frame buildings, erected for the purpose, fronting west, in the square between Thirteenth and Fourteenth streets east, following pretty nearly the line of North Carolina avenue to Seventeenth street east, and then along that street to A street south, and then in a triangular direction to the point of beginning. Opened January, 1863 ; closed August 26, 1865. Buildings now occupied by quartermaster's stores.
- L'Ouverture Hospital*, for colored troops, Alexandria, Va.—Buildings erected on the corner of Washington and Prince streets. Opened March, 1864 ; closed September, 1865. (Then opened by the Freedmen's Bureau, and continued as a hospital.)

- Lyceum Building*, Alexandria, Va.—Corner of Washington and Prince streets. Branch of second division United States General Hospital.
- Mansion House*, (hotel,) Alexandria, Va.—Corner of Cameron and Fairfax streets. Headquarters first division United States General Hospital.
- McVeigh, J. H.*, (private residence,) Alexandria, Va.—Corner of St. Asaph and Cameron streets. Branch of third division United States General Hospital.
- Mount Pleasant*, Washington county, D. C.—On the Holmead estate, Piney Branch road. Frame buildings erected, for the purpose, about one mile north of the city limits, from the termination of Fourteenth street. Opened April, 1862; closed August 10, 1865.
- National Era Building*, Washington, D. C.—Corner of Indiana avenue and Second street west. Opened July, 1862; closed April, 1863.
- Odd Fellows' Hall*, Washington, D. C.—On Eighth street east, between F and G south. Opened July, 1862; closed March, 1863.
- Old Capitol Prison*, Washington, D. C.—Corner of A street north and First street east, to which was attached an extensive hospital for State prisoners.
- Patent Office*, Washington, D. C., occupying squares bounded by Seventh and Ninth streets west and F and G streets north. The north and west wings used as a hospital. Opened October, 1861; closed January 16, 1863.
- Robertson, T. B.*, (private residence,) Alexandria, Va.—Corner of Prince and Columbia streets, was occupied as headquarters second division United States General Hospital. Taken September, 1862.
- School House*, (public,) Washington, D. C.—On Judiciary Square, Fifth street west, between G and H streets north. Occupied November 3, 1861, after the burning of the Washington Infirmary; vacated on the opening of Douglas Hospital, in January, 1862.
- Smith, F. L.*, (private residence,) Alexandria, Va. On corner of Wolfe and Pitt streets. Branch of first division United States General Hospital.
- St. Aloysius*, Washington, D. C.—This building was erected by and at the expense of St. Aloysius (Catholic) congregation, on a square between K and L streets north and First street west and North Capitol, to be used, instead of their church, which the exigencies of the war demanded for the accommodation of the sick and wounded. Opened October, 1862; (is still continued as a post hospital.)
- St. Elizabeth*, Washington county, D. C.—This hospital consisted of the new east wing of the Government Insane Hospital, situated on a commanding elevation, about two miles south of the city. Opened December, 1862; closed May 28, 1864.

Stanton, Washington, D. C.—Frame buildings erected on square bounded by H and I streets north, and Second and Third west. Opened December, 1862; closed October 19, 1865.

Stone, Washington county, D. C.—Country residence of the late W. J. Stone, just outside the Corporate limits, at the northern terminus of Fourteenth street, and opposite Columbian College. Opened April, 1862; closed July 1, 1865.

Union Hotel, Georgetown, D. C.—Northeast corner of Bridge and Washington streets. Opened May, 1861; closed March, 1863.

Washington Infirmary, Washington, D. C. On Judiciary Square. Taken possession of by the army for a hospital in April, 1861, and occupied until destroyed by fire, November 3, 1861.

Waters, Joseph, (warehouse,) Georgetown, D. C.—On High street, between Bridge and Water streets. Opened September, 1862; closed October, 1862.

There are situated in our city two medical bureaus, which are wholly under the control of the United States Government. They are, however, managed entirely in accordance with the highest dignity and proficiency of the medical profession. I allude to the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery of the Army and of the Navy. The heads of these departments are at all times filled by men eminent for their professional knowledge and executive ability. The high standard of professional acquirements demanded by them has done much to give our profession an elevated standing at home and abroad. But few of the surgeons of the army or navy engage in private practice; but they are all, nevertheless, devoted to the progress of the science of medicine, and we have had enrolled as active members of this Society some who were particularly eminent for their professional acquirements, and distinguished for their high social and benevolent qualities. There has always subsisted, and, I trust, always will, the kindest intercourse between the surgeons of the army and navy and the members of this Society.

The *Army Medical Museum* is a department of the army, under the direction of medical officers fully imbued with a love of their profession and desirous for its advancement, who have caused to be collected and preserved pathological specimens representing nearly every disease

and accident that occurred in the army and navy during the gigantic war through which our country has just passed. Over seven thousand specimens, with their complete history, have already been deposited in the *Army Medical Museum*. About five thousand of these belong to surgery, and the remainder to the domain of practical medicine. The collection is now being arranged, labelled, and catalogued, so as to be conveniently examined, and the history of each case referred to.

This vast Museum, unequalled in extent and scientific value in any country, is, with great liberality, opened to the inspection of the profession, and will, when completely arranged in the new building on Tenth street, between E and F, command the attention of students from all parts of the world. The surgical history of the war, now being prepared for publication by the Surgeon General, will make reference to these specimens, in verification of facts and conclusions, and will in many respects be the most valuable contribution to practical military surgery ever given to the public.

The medical profession of the District has always enjoyed and maintained with ability and dignity an exalted position in this community, and on more than one occasion has displayed remarkable liberality, and given especial encouragement for study and the advancement of those in the profession. Dr. *Thomas Ewell*, of this city, as early as January 15, 1807, offered for essays on medical subjects named by himself, as prizes, thirty acres of land, valued at five hundred dollars, and situated within a few miles of *Washington*.

The first prize of twenty acres was to be given for a plain and concise account of the best and most simple means of giving tone or strength to debilitated persons without the aid of Peruvian bark, wine, or foreign medicines. The second prize of ten acres for the best account of the most efficacious native substitutes for foreign cathartics, with the mode of preparing and exhibiting them.

Within the last year Dr. *Harvey Lindsly* sent a communication to this Society, informing its members that he desired to encourage medical investigations, and to stimulate accurate observations proposed

to place fifty dollars at the disposal of the Society, to be awarded for the best essay upon some medical subject selected by the Society.

Our city is not noted for its publications of a literary or scientific character, but there have nevertheless been a number of foreign medical works translated and republished here. There have also been some original contributions to medical science issued from the Washington press. The majority of the physicians of the District who have written on medical subjects have published their articles in the current medical journals of the day.

The following is presented as a list of works written or edited and articles known to have been contributed to medical journals by professional men who have lived at least a large portion of their lives in the *District of Columbia*, and are now deceased. It is not presented as complete—indeed, it is known not to be so—but it makes a very creditable exhibit of the intelligence, high culture, industry, skill, and powers of observation of those who have practised within the *Ten Miles Square*. Most of the books and articles referred to are in my possession :

Baker, William.—A letter to Joseph Kent, M. D., on the use of cold water injections in Dysentery, July 10, 1825. *Philadelphia Journal of Medicine and Physical Sciences*, vol 1, new series, p. 410.

———— Letter to Editor Medical Recorder, November 10, 1825, on the same subject. *Philadelphia Medical Recorder*, vol 9, p. 222.

Bohrer, Benjamin S.—A communication, as President of Board of Health, to the Mayor of Georgetown, recommending certain measures preventive of cholera, July 26, 1832. Published in the *Columbian Gazette*, and in pamphlet form, and distributed by the Board of Health.

Brereton, John A.—*Floræ Columbiana*, or Prodrômus of the *Flora Columbiana*, exhibiting a list of all the plants which had been collected in the District of Columbia. 18 mo., pp. 86. Washington: 1830.

Causin, Nathaniel P.—An Essay on Autumnal Bilious Epidemic of the United States. Read before the Medical Society of the District of Columbia, in April, 1823. *Philadelphia Medical Recorder*, vol. vii, p. 55.

Coolidge, Richard H.—Case of death from entrance of air into the internal jugular vein. *New York Journal of Medicine*, September, 1847.

———— Statistical Report on the Sickness and Mortality in the Army of the United States, from 1839 to 1855. Quarto. Washington: 1856.

- Coolidge, Richard H.*—Revised Edition of Hints on the Medical Examination of Recruits for the Army, &c., by Thomas Henderson. 12 mo., pp. 211. Philadelphia : 1856.
- The Vital Statistics of War, as shown by official returns of the British War with Russia, and by those of the United States with Mexico. American Journal of Medical Science, January, 1858.
- Statistical Report of Sickness and Mortality in the Army of the United States, from 1855 to 1860. Quarto. Washington: 1860.
- Cruik, James.*—An Account of the Last Illness of General Washington, signed also by the Consulting Physician, Dr. Elisha C. Dick. New York Medical Repository, vol. iii, p. 211. Was published in the Alexandria "Times," December, 1799, and is also in J. R. Coxe's Philadelphia Medical Museum, vol iv, p. 154.
- Cutbush, Edward.*—Observations on the Effect of Mercury in Typhus, in a Letter to Dr. W. Currie, April 25, 1864. American Medical and Philosophical Register, vol. i, p. 356.
- A Case of Abnormal Swelling Cured by the Application of Nicotania, or Common Tobacco, October 14, 1806. Philadelphia Medical Museum, vol. iii, p. 158.
- Observations on the Means of Preserving the Health of Soldiers and Sailors. 8 vo. Philadelphia: 1808.
- On the Opening of Buboës by Caustic. Philadelphia Medical and Physiological Journal, 1808, vol. iii, p. 19.
- A New and Expeditious Mode of Preparing Phosphate of Lime. 1812. Eclectic Repository, vol. ii, p. 367.
- An Address before the Columbian Institute, on the 17th January, 1817. 8 vo., pp. 29, Washington, 1817.
- Fossil and Animal Remains found imbedded in the Earth. National Intelligencer, July 11, 1829.
- A Letter on Cholera, to Dr. J. M. Stoughton. Western Medical Gazette, February, 1833.
- Dick, Elisha C.*—Facts and Observations Relative to the Diseases of Cynanchia Trinehalis, or Croup, October 7, 1808. Philadelphia Medical and Physiological Journal, vol. iii, p. 242.
- Ewell, James.*—Planters and Mariners' Medical Companion. 8 vo., pp. 328. Philadelphia, 1807. (Has gone through ten editions.)
- Ewell, Thomas.*—A Case of Lunacy, with a New Argument of the Vitality of the Blood; 1804. New York Repository, vol. 8, p. 135.
- Observations on the Union of Arteries, and the Treatment of Aneurisms, Communicated in a Letter to Dr. Mitchill; 1805. New York Medical Repository, vol. ix, p. 159.
- A Letter on the Materiality of Caloric, Addressed to Dr. Mitchill; 1805. New York Medical Repository, vol. ix, p. 237.
- Plain Discourse on the Laws or Properties of Matter, Elements of Modern Chemistry, &c; 8 vo. New York, 1806.

Ewell, Thomas.—Speculations concerning the Agency of Oxygen in Promoting Conception; 1806. New York Medical Repository, vol. x, p. 130.

————— Usefulness of the Internal Exhibition of the Sugar of Lead, in several Diseases; 1807. New York Medical Reporter, vol. xi, p. 249.

————— Letters to Ladies, Concerning Themselves and Infants; 8 vo. Philadelphia, 1817.

————— The Huntsman and the Dog; A Satirical Poem; 8 vo., pp. 14. Philadelphia, 1817.

————— An Edition of Hume's Philosophical Essays on Morals, Literature, and Politics, with Answers to His Objections to Christianity, by Dr. Campbell, to which is Appended a Life of Dr. Hume; 2 vols., 8vo. Philadelphia, 1817.

————— Improvements in the Theory and Practice of the Science of Medicine; 8 vo., pp. 168. Philadelphia, 1819.

Gibson, ———— On the Eye, with plates. Quarto. Baltimore, 1832.

Hall, B. H.—An Account of the Yellow Fever in Alexandria, D. C., in 1803, in a Letter to Dr. Mitchell. New York Medical Repository, vol. viii, p. 18.

Henderson Thomas.—On Ovarian Diseases and Abdominal Steatoma, Read before the Medical Society of the District of Columbia, July, 1818. Eclectic Repository, vol. v., p. 545.

————— On Dislocation of the Knee-joint; 1819. Philadelphia Medical Recorder, vol. ii, p. 357.

————— Report on diseases of Georgetown; Read before the Medical Society of the District of Columbia; Report for 1820 and 1821. Philadelphia Journal of Medical and Physical Science, vol. vii, p. 38.

————— Criticism on Dr. Washington's Essay on Yellow Fever; 8vo., pp. 25. Georgetown, D. C., 1824.

————— Lecture on the Theory and Practice of Medicine at the Opening of the Medical Department of Columbian College; 8 vo., pp. 23. Washington, 1825.

————— Report of Cases, with Observations: Asthma; Elongated Uvula a Cause of Cough; Trachitis; December, 1827. American Medical Recorder, vol. xv, p. 351; also in Hay's Journal, vol. iii, p. 351.

————— An Epitome of Physiology, General Anatomy, and Pathology of Bichat; 8 vo., pp. 326. Philadelphia, 1829.

————— Cases of Pulmonary Consumption, with Observations; 1831. American Journal of Medical Science, vol. viii, p. 340.

————— Hints on the Medical Examination of Recruits for the Army. Philadelphia, 1834.

————— Report on the Medical Topography of Madison Barracks, Sackett's Harbor, New York, and the Diseases that Occurred there between the 1st of August, 1838, and the 30th of September, 1840. American Journal of Medical Sciences, January, 1841, p. 337.

- Huntt, Henry*.—An Abstract Account of the Diseases which Prevailed Among the Soldiers Received into the General Hospital at Burlington, Vermont, During the Summer and Autumn of 1814. Philadelphia Medical Recorder, vol. i, p. 365.
- A case of a Wounded Shoulder-joint, in which the Head of the Anumerus was Removed (during the war of 1812). Philadelphia Medical Recorder, vol. i, p. 365.
- Two Cases of Colico Peetonia, Produced by a Aectete of Lead. New York Medical Repository, vol. xviii, p. 64.
- A Brief Sketch of the Weather and Diseases of the City of Washington, from May to November, 1821. American Medical Recorder, vol. v, p. 277.
- Observations on a Change of Climate in Pulmonary Consumption; Read before the Columbian Institute in 1836, and published in the Philadelphia Medical and Surgical Journal, vol. i, p. 282.
- Observations on a Change of Climate in Pulmonary Consumption, republished with additional remarks on the Red Sulphur Springs of Virginia. 8vo., pp. 22, Washington, 1834.
- Visit to the Red Sulphur Springs, of Virginia, in 1837; 8vo., pp. 27, Washington, 1838; reprinted, with an Introductory, by T. H. Perkins. 8 vo., pp. 49. Boston, 1839.
- Jennings, Samuel, K.*—Patent Portable Warm and Hot Bath; Elementary Explanation of the Nature and Cure of Diseases; 12mo., pp. 12 Washington, 1814.
- Jones, Thomas P.*—Charge, Addressed to the Graduates in Medicine, at the Commencement of the Medical Department of Columbian College, D. C., 1830.
- Lawson, Thomas*.—Meteorological Register for Years 1826, '27, '28, '29, and '30, from Observations Made by Surgeons of the Army; 8vo. pp. 161. Philadelphia, 1840.
- Statistical Report of Sickness and Mortality in the Army of the United States, from Records in Surgeon General and Adjutant General's Office, from January, 1819 to January, 1839; 8vo., pp. 346. Washington, 1840.
- Lovell, Joseph*.—A Case of Wounded Stomach. Philadelphia Medical Recorder, vol. viii, p. 14.
- A Letter to the National Intelligencer, July 25, 1826, on the Value of Meteorological Observations. Reports of Meteorological Observations. New York Medical Repository, vol. xxiii, p. 126; also vol. xxxi, pp. 107, 303, 490.
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- Sewall, Thomas*.—A Lecture at the opening of the Medical Department of the Columbian College, D. C., March 30, 1825; 8 vo. pp. 80. Washington, 1825.
- Second Edition of the Same; 8 vo., pp. 44. Washington, 1826.
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- A Case of Fungus Hæmatodes, with an Engraving; August, 1830. American Journal of Medical Science, vol. vi, p. 301.
- An Address Delivered Before the Washington City Temperance Society, November 15, 1830; 8 vo., pp. 24. Washington, 1830.
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- Examination of Phrenology; 8 vo., pp. 70. Washington, 1837.
- A Case in which a Portion of a Percussion Cap was Extracted from the Anterior Chamber of the Eye, by an Operation; August, 1839. American Journal of Medical Science, vol. xxiv, p. 288.
- Pathology of Drunkenness; with numerous large colored plates. Quarto. Albany: 1841.
- Sim, Thomas*.—An Account of the Efficacy of Blood Letting, in the Cure of Dropsies; February 4, 1804. Philadelphia Medical Museum, vol. i, p. 316.
- Eulogy on the Life and Character of Dr. Benjamin Rush, delivered June 26, 1813, at the request of the Medical Practitioners of Washington and Georgetown; 8vo. Washington, 1813.
- Staughton, James M.*—Observations on Mania a Potu; 1821. Philadelphia Journal of Medical and Physical Science, vol. iii, p. 238.
- A Case of Metastasis; January, 1822. Philadelphia Medical Recorder, vol. v, p. 130.
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————— Pokeberry Juice in External Hæmorrhoids ; December 24, 1804. Coxe's Medical Museum, vol. i, p. 291.

————— Observations on the Exceptions in the Vaccine Disease ; June 9, 1805. Philadelphia Medical Museum, vol. ii, p. 51.

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————— Observations on the Indigenus Plants of America, and the Cultivation of those of Foreign Growth : December, 16, 1805. Philadelphia Medical Museum, vol. ii, p. 426.

————— On the Utility of Spirits of Turpentine in a Fever Burn ; and an Account of an Extraordinary Instance of the Late Commencement of the Catamenia ; March 7, 1806. Coxe's Museum, vol. iii, p. 58.

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The impression in the past has prevailed very generally throughout the country that the National Capital, as regards salubrity, had been

unfortunately located. This is not only a delusion, but a grave misapprehension of the facts, and must have originated either in ignorance or prejudice. The mortuary* reports of *Washington City* will compare favorably with those of any other city in the *United States*. The appended note gives a statement of the health of this locality in 1797, and we are quite confident it has not deteriorated since. The whole country, however, for the last six years, has had ample evidence of the healthfulness of the District. There is scarcely another city in the *United States* or the world where the same amount of crowding of men and animals within the same compass, including military camps, hospitals, hotels, and slaughter houses, without creating some terrible and devastating epidemic. Not even in the numerous hospitals established here, liable at all times to certain epidemics, did any disease prevail unfavorable to the general health.

Of the epidemics that have prevailed in this section I have collected the following facts:

In the fall and winter of 1789-'90 an epidemic—influenza—originating in the South, gradually spread over the whole country, and was

* "TO THE EDITOR—MR. MORE: As two of our largest cities are now visited with a malignant and contagious fever, which sweeps off great numbers of their inhabitants, and is the terror of the country; and as none of our great commercial cities have been exempted from its direful effect, the following statement of the general health and the number of deaths in this city for the year past cannot be unacceptable to your subscribers and to the community at large.

"The city of *Washington* is computed to contain about two thousand inhabitants, and for the year past there has not been one case of fever fatal, or even troublesome; no contagious or epidemic disorder, except the small pox by inoculation; and but very few cases of the intermittent fever. From the best authorities which we can collect, the number of deaths in the last year have been as follows:

Of Consumption.....	2	Of Old Age.....	1
Diarrhœa.....	1	Convulsions (a child).....	1
Cancerous Breast.....	1	Small Pox (by inoculation).....	1

"The latter was the only one which died out of three hundred who were inoculated. We understand it has been equally healthy in *Georgetown*.

"SEPTEMBER, 1797.

W."

[*Washington Gazette*., 1797.

so severe in this section as to cause many deaths. In 1807 it again prevailed, but seemed to advance from the Northeast, and extend to the South and West.

In 1793 a bilious dysentery prevailed in *Georgetown, Alexandria*, and the surrounding country, which carried off many of the inhabitants. There were this season numerous cases of severe bilious fever, in which black vomit was not of unfrequent occurrence. Yellow fever prevailed during the same year in all the seacoast cities as far east as *Providence, Rhode Island*.

In 1797 three hundred persons in *Washington City*—then with a population of two thousand—were inoculated for the small pox. But one death occurred from the disease received in that way, and but seven deaths during the year from all causes.

In 1798 yellow fever broke out in *Alexandria* in some tenement houses near the wharf, and for a time was confined to that locality, but it gradually extended through the city, and before it disappeared caused the deaths of over three hundred persons.

In 1801 vaccination was first practiced in the *District of Columbia*. The vaccine lymph was brought here in the spring of that year by President *Jefferson*, and given to Dr. *Edward Gantt*, of *Georgetown*, to use and distribute among the other physicians. The President had received by mail at *Monticello* two specimens of matter from *Benjamin Waterhouse*, of *Boston*. The one was of the Doctor's own procuring, and the other direct from *Jenner*, the discoverer of its phophylactic powers. With this supply the Sage of *Monticello* vaccinated over three hundred persons connected with his own and his neighbors' families.—[See *Jefferson's* letter to *John R. Core*.]

The *District of Columbia* is subject to great and sudden changes in the extremes of heat and cold; but the free circulation of air through our broad streets, public squares, and vacant lots, and the abundance of pure water supplied has kept this city healthy and as free from epidemics as any in the *United States*.

In the fall and winter of 1814 a very fatal bilious fever prevailed in *Alexandria, Georgetown*, and the *District of Columbia* generally, as

well as in portions of *Virginia* and *Maryland*; but the mortality here was confined chiefly to the intemperate and the poor and badly fed.

In 1819 bilious fever of a severe grade prevailed in the District, and yellow fever as an epidemic at *Baltimore*. The corporation of *Georgetown, D. C.*, generously donated \$600 for the relief of the poor of that city.

August 14, 1819, a Board of Health was established in *Washington* by a law of the Corporation, passed chiefly through the influence of Dr. *Henry Hunt*, who was placed at the head of it. He retained this position, and discharged its duties with marked ability, until about 1833, when he resigned. The city at this time was divided into six wards. The following eminent physicians and influential citizens constituted the first Board of Health of *Washington City*:

First Ward.—Dr. Thomas Sim, Charles W. Goldsborough.

Second Ward.—Dr. Henry Hunt, Thomas H. Gilliss.

Third Ward.—Dr. Thomas Sewall, Thomas Hughes.

Fourth Ward.—Dr. Frederick May, Elias B. Caldwell.

Fifth Ward.—John Rodgers, Samuel N. Smallwood.

Sixth Ward.—Dr. Charles B. Hamilton, Edward Semmes.

The summer of 1821 was unhealthy. Dysentery and bilious intermittent fever of a severe grade, and to an unusual extent, prevailed in *Alexandria*, *Washington*, and *Georgetown*, as well as the surrounding country. Late in the fall yellow fever broke out in *Alexandria*. The disease at first was confined to a small section of the city near the wharf, but, before it was arrested by the frost, over fifty deaths had occurred.

In 1823 a low grade of bilious remittent fever existed in *Washington*. Its prevalence was attributed to the wet season, and the extraordinary crops of weeds that had sprung up on vacant lots everywhere through the city and were then decaying.

In 1828, 1833, 1846, 1863, and 1864, small pox prevailed, if not as an epidemic, still to a very unusual extent, in *Washington* and *Georgetown*. In 1828 this Society held extra meetings and discussed the subject as to measures necessary to arrest its spread. The practice

of revaccination was then deemed unnecessary if the vaccine disease had once been perfectly induced. Gratuitous vaccinations were proffered, not only by the Corporation, but by the profession generally, to all who chose to avail themselves of it. When the disease prevailed here in 1833, an incident occurred so highly honorable in a person little suspected of a superabundance of tender sympathies, that it is worthy of record. President *Jackson's* coachman, "*Charles*," a favorite servant, who had been with the General through all his Southern campaigns, was taken ill with the small pox. The case proved severe, and of a confluent form. The other servants about the *White House* were so much frightened, although immediately vaccinated, that it was impossible to get them to nurse him properly. When the General learned these facts, he did all he could to procure a competent nurse, but being unsuccessful, he determined to assume these duties himself. He accordingly gave directions that he was not to be seen, and having changed his clothes, he remained with *Charles*, and gave him his medicine until he was considered out of danger. I am indebted for the above incident to the General's family physician, Dr. *J. C. Hall*.

In 1830 the mode of making extension in fractures by the application of strips of adhesive plaster was first brought to the notice of the medical profession by Dr. *Alexander McWilliams*, of this city. He had been long using it with the most satisfactory and uniform success in the *Washington Poor House*, an institution in which he was the medical officer for thirty-five consecutive years. But few improvements or applications in surgery so simple, and at the same time so effective in its purpose, or that adds so much to the comfort of the patient, have been made in a century. It is due to his memory, as well as to the standing and efficiency of the profession in this city, that the claim to the introduction of this valuable mode of making extensions and treating fractures be distinctly made for Dr. *McWilliams*.

In 1832 the Asiatic cholera first appeared upon the American continent, and during the summer and fall spread over the greater part of the United States. The first case in *Washington* appeared on the 14th of August. The Board of Health and the citizens shortly after

organized three hospitals for the treatment of the disease, which were of great practical utility and convenience during the prevalence of the epidemic, which lasted about six weeks.

No complete report of the epidemic cholera as it existed here at that time was ever published. The minutes of the Board of Health show that such a report was ordered to be prepared, but it was not published; and, if prepared, is now lost from the archives of the Board.

The following is a synopsis of a preliminary report made by Doctors *H. Hunt*, *T. Sewall*, and *N. P. Causin*, and published in the *National Intelligencer*:

Whole number of deaths.....	459
Males.....	269
Females.....	190
White.....	251
Black (free).....	162
Black (slaves).....	46

A few cases of the disease are said to have occurred in 1833, 1848, and 1854, but at no time since 1832 has it assumed an epidemic character.

On the 15th September, 1832, this Society lost one of its oldest and most esteemed members—Dr. *Thomas Sim*—by cholera. He was at the time president of the Society, and engaged in an extensive practice, and was highly esteemed by the community for his social worth and professional skill.

In 1835 scarlet fever of an unusually severe and malignant type prevailed in this city. The first cases were observed near the *Navy Yard*, but it spread over the whole city, and the following year swept over *Georgetown* and *Alexandria*. The mortality attending this visitation of the disease was unusually great.

In 1845 dysentery and measles prevailed to a much greater extent than usual among us, and numerous deaths occurred when the two diseases attacked the patient at the same time.

In 1846 intermittent fever prevailed more universally in the Dis-

trict than perhaps at any other period in our history. It was, however, not particularly fatal.

In 1849 puerperal fever prevailed extensively, although it could hardly be considered as an epidemic; and quite a number of parturient women died of it. This year small pox also prevailed to a very unusual extent in *Washington* and *Georgetown*; so much so that the city authorities established a small pox hospital as a branch of the *Washington Asylum*, and appointed Dr. *G. M. Dove* as the attending physician.

During the latter portion of January, 1857, the "*National Hotel* disease," as it was familiarly called, broke out in that hotel. The disease manifested itself in a profuse diarrhoea, coming on unusually early in the morning, about the time or before the patient got up, and without much pain. If the discharges from the bowels were checked, the stomach became irritable. Great numbers of persons were attacked with the disease who were mere casual visitors of the house, and some guests were attacked even after they returned to their homes. It was only in the most severe and long-protracted cases that pain or inflammatory action was developed. The testimony of physicians before the Board of Health goes to show that the cause of the disease proceeded from emanations of mephitic gas, owing to defective sewerage. The disease was most prevalent during very cold weather, when the windows and doors were kept constantly closed.

Many persons were disposed to believe that the disease originated from, and depended upon, a specific poison introduced into the system through the food or drink which had been taken in the house. This view of the case is controverted by the facts which occurred in the selling out of the furniture after the house had been closed up for months. The facts are these: Mr. *T. J. Fisher*, who sold at auction the furniture and effects of the house on the premises, was attacked during the progress of the sale, which lasted some weeks. Several buyers who came from Baltimore and attended the sale, were also attacked, together with some of our own citizens who had not been in the house previously, and neither ate nor drank in it.

The last disease which I shall notice is one popularly known as the "army itch." This affection made its appearance here during the war, and still maintains a place in the catalogue of diseases in this section. Many practitioners are disposed to view it as not differing from ordinary scabies. Others, however, and those who have had considerable experience in treating it, believe it to be a distinct disease, requiring a different treatment.

In conclusion, permit me to congratulate this Society upon its present very prosperous condition and the recent accession of many highly educated and accomplished physicians. The Society is now fairly embarked upon a course of great usefulness to its members and of increased reputation with the public. The measures of late inaugurated for increasing and diffusing a knowledge of the improvements in the science and practice of medicine have been well supported, and enjoy the approbation of every member of the Society. We know that a feeling of self-sufficiency of knowledge is apt to grow upon medical men, unless they are real students, or are constantly contrasting their knowledge, opinions, and practice with those of their co-laborers in the profession. Those who have attended the meetings of the Society regularly know best the importance to the general practitioner of the papers read, pathological specimens exhibited, and the discussions elicited. It is in our associate capacity that we are best able to direct, if not to control, the status of the profession in the District. We have all been benefited by the frequent meetings of this body during the last three years, and have elevated the Society in our own and in the public estimation.

Sincerely hoping that some abler pen will in the future collect and arrange the scattered facts of value in the history of medicine in the *District of Columbia* that I have overlooked or treated inadequately, and present them in a more acceptable form, I again thank you for your attention and indulgence in listening to these imperfect notes, which are given to this Society and the profession as a nucleus to a more perfect history.





